



A 32-PAGE SPECIAL SECTION HONORING VALOR IN THE WAR ON TERRORISM — INSIDE TODAY

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TERI WEAVER/Stars and Stripes

Plans are under way to move unused trailers from a base in Taji, Iraq, to Forward Operating Base Shield so troops can spread out.

CLOSE QUARTERS

U.S. troops transitioning out of Iraq's cities crowd into same Baghdad base

BY TERI WEAVER
Stars and Stripes

BAGHDAD — Spc. Arron Vandeventer, a sniper, sat on a folding stool cleaning his weapon while other soldiers piled their duffle bags onto bunks around him.

This is home now, a warehouse-type room crammed with 40 bunk beds at Forward Operating Base Shield, near Baghdad's former Olympic grounds between the Tigris River and Sadr City. Vandeventer arrived Monday from Suleikh, a joint U.S.-

Iraqi security station that Americans are vacating as part of the plan to pull back from Iraq's cities by June 30. The same day, about 150 U.S. soldiers officially moved out of a similar base called Basateen in eastern Baghdad.

When asked Tuesday afternoon what his new job would be at Shield, Vandeventer paused.

"Actually, we're not really sure," he said.

First Lt. Rian Hardin said in many ways the crowded room is a good sign. It means the end is in sight.

SEE SPACE ON PAGE 2

Tobacco regulation bill headed to Obama

BY JIM ABRAMS
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Congress sent legislation to the White House on Friday granting the federal government unprecedented authority to regulate and restrict cigarettes, the single largest cause of preventable death.

President Barack Obama quickly expressed his support, appearing in the Rose Garden almost immediately after the House gave final approval to the bill giving the Food and Drug Administration control over tobacco production, marketing and sales.

For more than a decade, Obama said, leaders in Congress have been trying to prevent the marketing of cigarettes to children "and provide the public with the information they need to understand what a dangerous habit this is." He said the outcome was "a bill that truly defines change in Washington."

Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif., chief sponsor of the House version, called it "the single most important thing that we can do right now to curb this deadly toll."

More than 400,000 people die every year from tobacco-related diseases, according to government figures.

About 45 million U.S. adults are smokers, though the prevalence has fallen since the U.S. surgeon general's warning 45 years ago that tobacco causes lung cancer.

SEE TOBACCO ON PAGE 16

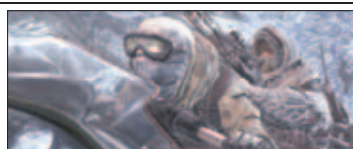
Highlights

- Prohibits use of flavored cigarettes
- Restricts advertisements and promotions targeted toward minors
- Bans use of words such as "mild" or "light" that give the impression that the product is safer
- Stronger warning labels

Navy suspends
Selective Reenlistment
Bonus program **Page 3**



E3 brings out the big guns:
20 video games to watch
Scene magazine



Osan's Baldevia,
Zama's Quallio named
athletes of year **Page 40**

QUOTE OF THE DAY

**"When you're alone like me,
that's my partner."**

—Patricia Bruchalski, 82, said about her television. TV stations across the U.S. started cutting their analog signals Friday morning, ending a 60-year run for the technology.

See story on Page 17

TOP CLICKS ON STRIPES.COM

The most popular stories
on our Web site:

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COMING TOMORROW

Science & Medicine

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patent laws
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TODAY IN STRIPES

| | |
|------------------------|---------------|
| Advice | 21 |
| American Roundup | 22-23 |
| Classified | 33-35 |
| Comics | Sunday Comics |
| Crossword | Scene |
| Faces | 19 |
| Horoscope | 21 |
| Opinion | 26-27 |
| Parade | 20 |
| Perspectives | 28 |
| Sports | 38-48 |
| Sudoku | 21 |
| TV listings | 29 |
| Weather | 32 |
| Your Money | 30-31 |

Space: Joint center to keep U.S. troops, Iraqis working together

SPACE, FROM PAGE 1

"I love the Army," Hardin said, "but this is getting ridiculous. They don't need us all. Send some of us home."

Construction has begun on a joint operations command center to be shared by the Iraqi and U.S. armies. Plans began this week to move unused living trailers from Taji, a U.S. base northwest of Baghdad, into Shield to accommodate the incoming soldiers.

Despite a diminished presence in the cities, the goal is to keep the U.S. and Iraqi soldiers and officers working together, says Lt. Col. Scott Jackson, the commander of the 1st Battalion, 5th Regiment, within the 1st Cavalry Division.

"In some ways, we'll be closer to the IAs than we were," said Jackson, who commands from FOB Shield.

One of that battalion's company executive officers put it another way.

"We're still in the city," said 1st Lt. Adam Tyra. "We're just shuffling around."

A comprehensive agreement struck last year set many milestones leading to the June 30 deadline. The Iraqi government has the authority to ask the United States to occupy or leave bases in the cities by the end of the month.

In east Baghdad's Adhamiyah and Rusafa neighborhoods, the plan is to pull back from the small bases but continue to work on the Iraqi army's communications and planning operations, Jackson said. That's why the Army is building the joint command cen-



PHOTOS TERI WEAVER/Stars and Stripes

At Forward Operating Base Shield, more than 80 soldiers from 1st Battalion, 5th Regiment are living in one room. Many arrived on Monday and Tuesday from joint security stations Basateen and Suleikh.

ter, he said.

The shift in tactics also means that, down the road, the U.S. military will need more senior enlisted soldiers and officers like Hardin and Tyra to mentor Iraqi military leaders. That leaves some of the younger soldiers wondering what they will do in the coming months.

"We don't have much of a job in this war, compared to last time," said Sgt. Christopher Tagoon, who like Vandever is a member of the battalion's sniper team.

The battalion deployed in January, and until Monday, Tagoon's assignment was to man the headquarters office at Suleikh. He last deployed in 2007 with the same battalion. At one point during that 15-month deployment, the unit

lost more than a dozen soldiers in just a few weeks, Tagoon said. This time, the battalion hasn't lost a soldier.

The office job, he said, was a nice break from constant patrolling.

"It's better for the families, too," Tagoon said of those waiting back home.

Their orders came through later in the week. Vandever and Tagoon, part of the battalion's scout platoon, will soon be working with the commando company for the 43rd Iraqi Army Brigade within the 11th Iraqi Army Division, according to Maj. Kevin Wallace, the battalion's executive officer.

After Monday's closing ceremony at Basateen, Jackson met

with the Iraqi National Police general who now controls the entire base. He urged the general to call on the U.S. battalion for help in patrolling, training or planning.

"I got a whole bunch of guys sitting on their thumbs right now," Jackson said.

Later, Jackson said the statement was an "over-embellishment," a way to entice the general to call more often for help from the Americans.

Even so, Jackson said, the pace will continue to decline, especially after June 30.

"We'll still go out," he said of future patrols with the Iraqi army. "But not every time."

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Correction

A story on the 2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment in the Heroes supplement, which was preprinted, should have said five soldiers were wounded and two were killed in the July 5, 2007, battle near Tsangar, Afghanistan.

Additionally, the number of awards given to the unit is still not final.

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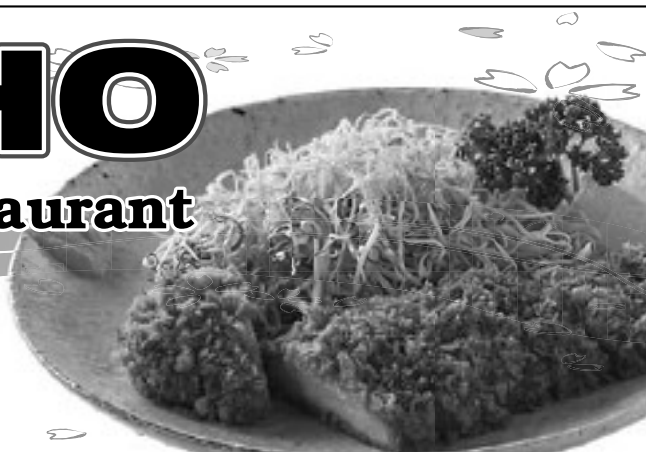
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High re-enlistment rate lets Navy suspend SRBs

By DAVID J. CARTER
Stars and Stripes

The Navy is suspending its Selective Reenlistment Bonus program for the remainder of the fiscal year, according to a Navy message released Thursday by Chief of Naval Personnel Vice Adm. Mark Ferguson.

Higher retention and funding limits are cited as reasons for the move.

According to the message, the SRB program is a force-shaping tool designed to help retain sailors in the Navy's most critical ratings.

Last month, sailors in the nuclear power field were receiving bonuses up to \$90,000 for six-year re-enlistments. However, the Navy has already

achieved its fiscal-year retention goals for first-term sailors in nuclear ratings — a feat that hasn't been achieved in 38 years.

Similarly, the message indicated that hard-to-fill expeditionary ratings are tracking above predicted goals for the year.

Ferguson said in the message that the Navy is at the limit of its congressional mandate for SRBs.

Bonus requests that were received before June 10 will be processed, Navy officials said. Navy officials have indicated that they will begin accepting new SRB requests early in fiscal 2010.

A subsequent message will be released indicating specific rating eligibility as well as future SRB award levels, the message said.

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Okinawa Marine dies in Afghanistan

Stars and Stripes

An Okinawa-based Marine explosive ordnance disposal officer was killed Wednesday in Afghanistan while on his sixth combat tour supporting operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, the military announced.

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Ricky L. Richardson, 33, of Franklin, Mo., died while supporting combat operations in the Farah province, according to a news release.

Richardson arrived on Okinawa in July 2007 and was assigned to the 9th Engineer Support Battalion, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force. He deployed to Afghanistan in February for his sixth combat tour, the release said.

Relatives told local television station KTVI-TV in St. Louis that Richardson was killed while dismantling bombs.

Family member Theresa Hulse of Sullivan, Mo., told St. Louis television station KSDK that Richardson was a passionate and dedicated Marine. "Even when he wasn't on tour, when he was home, he was always saying, 'I need to get back over there. There's a lot I could be doing,'" Hulse said, according to a report on the station's Web site.

Family also told the station that Richardson is survived by a wife and an 8-year-old son.

Richardson joined the Marine Corps in 1996. He was promoted to chief warrant officer 2 in August.

As of Thursday, at least 631 servicemembers have died in Operation Enduring Freedom since 2001, according to the Department of Defense Web site. Of those casualties, 465 were killed in action.



Clockwise from left: While under "sniper fire," military police guide civilians out of an apartment building during a training exercise Thursday at Rodriguez Range in South Korea. An injured civilian is pulled to safety as snipers interrupt the evacuation. A military policeman responds to sniper fire. MPs load apartment building evacuees into a truck as snipers fire upon them. A group of military police take cover.

PHOTOS BY JON RABIROFF
Stars and Stripes



'A combat multiplier' MPs' battle skills on display during drill at S. Korean training site

By JON RABIROFF
Stars and Stripes

RODRIGUEZ RANGE, South Korea — A military police company came here last week to hone its skills, and not one traffic ticket was issued or one bar fight broken up.

In fact, the MPs stormed a building and evacuated civilians while exchanging gunfire with "snipers" during the exercise.

It seems you have to kick open a few doors if you want people to recognize that MPs are more than keepers of the peace.

"A lot of people are confused," said Capt. Marshall Hunt, commander of the 55th MP Company based at Camp Casey.

"They only see MPs out there running around in patrol cars, and that is half of our mission.

The other half ... is our war-fighting mission."

The image of MPs is changing in the ranks, but not fast enough for some people.

"There are some areas where we could be utilized a little different," Sgt. 1st Class Bradley Guerrieri said. "It's hard when your higher-up ... doesn't understand the whole MP mission. They don't understand we bring a lot of combat power to the table."

"Because the Army is evolving into a whole new infrastructure ... this is just part of the growing pains — trying to get everyone educated on who brings what to the table," he said.

But progress is being made, especially in Iraq and Afghanistan, Guerrieri said.

"Years ago, they never would have called upon MPs to do some

of the missions," he said. "Now we're working alongside the combat power. They're understanding we have a lot of combat power. If they use it right, it's a combat multiplier."

Members of the 55th MP Company and the Yongsan Garrison-based HHD 94th MP Battalion spent four days at Rodriguez Range — about 15 miles from the DMZ — as part of a scenario in which there had been "aggressive activity from the North Koreans" and the MPs had to secure a village and keep the adjacent road safe for U.S. and South Korean troops, Hunt said.

The exercise was not planned in response to the recent acts and talk of aggression from North Korea, he said, nor was it particularly aimed at preparing his

company for any future action on the Korean peninsula.

"It doesn't matter where my MPs go after this," Hunt said. "They can fight here in South Korea. They can fight in Iraq or Afghanistan. But I am giving them the basic skill set that will make them successful anywhere."

In Thursday's exercise, the MPs had to evacuate about 20 residents of an apartment building while under fire from two nearby buildings and a wooded area along their route.

Further complicating the task were a mock explosive device that went off as the convoy approached the building, the fact that a handful of "North Koreans" were among the evacuees, and a few of the civilians being injured by gunfire as they

were led away.

Lt. Col. Matthew Coulson, the 94th MP Battalion commander, was satisfied after the evacuation, telling Hunt that the point of such exercises is to identify and correct any mistakes that were made.

Coulson said he has seen the role of MPs evolve over the past couple of decades from "ticket writers" and "gate guards" to the "war fighters" who are now "one of the most deployed forces" in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"We just have to [continue to] educate our superiors to make sure they understand what the military mission is for the military police in combat, and how we can be a combat multiplier for the maneuver forces," he said.

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Exec pleads guilty to bribing AAFES officials

By FRANKLIN FISHER
Stars and Stripes

PYEONGTAEK, South Korea — South Korean businessman Jeong Gi-hwan pleaded guilty Thursday to bribing AAFES officials so his company could win and hold a lucrative contract to sell Internet and phone service to U.S. troops in South Korea, the Justice Department said Friday.

Samsung Rental Co. Ltd., also known as SSRT, was later accused by servicemembers of price gouging and chronically poor service.

In an agreement with federal prosecutors, Jeong pleaded guilty in Dallas federal court to an indictment charging him with two counts of bribery, one count of conspiracy and two counts of honest services wire fraud.

U.S. District Judge Ed Kinkeade scheduled sentencing for Sept. 16, according to court documents.

The conspiracy ran from 2001 to 2006 and centered on a \$206 million Army and Air Force Exchange Service contract to provide Internet and phone services on U.S. installations in South Korea.

The bribes included money spent on prostitutes, dining, drinking, travel and stock options, according to court papers.

From October 2001 to August 2005, Jeong paid about \$80,000 in cash, entertainment, stock and other things of value to Clifton W. Choy, then AAFES service program manager for the Pacific region.

In exchange, Choy used his position to feed SSRT confidential bidding informa-

tion so it could beat out competing firms for the contract. Shortly after AAFES gave the contract to SSRT, Jeong admitted, he paid Choy \$20,000 in cash. Choy continued to use his position to help SSRT, according to court documents.

Choy died of heart failure in August at a time when federal agents were investigating him in the case.

From May 2003 to April 2005, Jeong also paid about \$70,000 to H. Lee Holloway, who at the time was AAFES general manager at Osan Air Base.

Holloway had initially moved to terminate SSRT's contract because of the mounting customer complaints. But after

the bribes began, Holloway used his position to shield SSRT from any adverse action within AAFES, according to court documents.

Stock offerings were among the bribes to Holloway, according to the documents. SSRT expected to gain \$20 million in profits by bribing Holloway.

Holloway pleaded guilty in the SSRT case in April, admitting as part of a plea bargain to one count of conspiracy to commit bribery and one count of filing a false tax return. He faces sentencing in U.S. District Court in Columbus, Ga. But no sentencing date has yet been set.

AAFES severed its contract with SSRT in 2007.

Jeong was convicted in South Korean court in 2008 of interfering with foreign trade for bribing AAFES officials in connection with the SSRT contract.

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Jeong



Holloway

Base improvements keeping Army Corps of Engineers busy

By BRYCE S. DUBEE
Stars and Stripes

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — Whether you're in Tacoma or Tallahassee, if you tell construction workers they're going to be building a Chili's restaurant, odds are they have a pretty good idea of what the project will look like.

If it's going to be on a base in Japan, however, it's a totally different story.

"Most Japanese contractors and workers would only see something like this maybe on TV," said Augie Carrillo, the Yokota resident engineer for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Slated to open later this summer, Yokota's Chili's is one of several construction projects the Corps is overseeing on base.

With work nearly complete, the building has been turned over to the 374th Force Support Squadron to put in the final touches to make it ready to serve customers when it is due to open this summer.

Franchises like Chili's have a set way of doing things and are very guarded of their corporate identity and look of their restaurants, right down to the color of the paint on the walls and the type of tile adorning the bar, Carrillo said. And if things don't look just right then it won't be a Chili's, he added.

"I don't think I've ever been involved in a franchise project like this," he said. "It's a little bit out of the ordinary as we normally build a lot of general purpose buildings."

Grant Sattler, a public affairs spokesman for the Corps' Japan District, explained the engineers have two main missions — civil works and military programs.

Civil works primarily involve maintaining U.S. waterways, including navigation flood control, hydropower dams, water supply, hurricane and coastal storm protection and beach erosion control, he said.

As one of 45 districts within the Corps, including three in Iraq and one in Afghanistan, the



GRANT SATTLER/Courtesy of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers



BRYCE S. DUBEE/Stars and Stripes

Left: Augie Carrillo, right, Yokota resident engineer for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Japan Engineer District, speaks with Japanese contractors at the Yokota Airmen Leadership School construction site. The ALS project is one of several being overseen by the Corps of Engineers at Yokota. Right: A Japanese worker watches as building materials are lowered onto what will eventually become the second floor of the Yokota Air Base Airmen Leadership School.

Japan District differs from those in the States in that they have no civil works mission and that many of its construction projects are funded by the Japanese government, Sattler said.

Construction projects are divided between two types — on-base commercial projects like Chili's and the much larger host-nation-funded projects to provide base infrastructure, housing and operational buildings. The Japanese government foots the bill for the latter to share the burden of stationing U.S. Forces in the country.

Headquartered at Camp Zama, the Japan Engineer District has resident offices at Yokota and Misawa Air Bases, Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, and Sasebo and Yokosuka Naval Bases as well as offices in Okinawa, he said. In the Chili's project, the Corps of Engineers reviewed the design and provided on-site construction oversight, including safety management, technical assistance and coordination between base agencies, government of Japan construction representatives and contractors.

"We wouldn't just take

plans and hand them over to a contractor," he said. "We're there along every step of the way of the design process."

Just across the street from Chili's the Corps is overseeing another project well under way. When finished, it will house Yokota's Airmen Leadership School, part of the Japanese Air Self-Defense Force's Air Defense Command's relocation to the base. The project is one of about 20 projects scheduled to take place on Yokota as part of the relocation.

Work on the leadership school is progressing rapidly; where only a

few weeks ago there was only an empty field, workers Friday were setting up forms to pour concrete for the building's second floor.

"(The Japanese contractors) are really a joy to work with," said Carrillo, who praised their work ethic, attention to detail and strong sense of teamwork. "It's a real team effort."

For more information about the Army Corps of Engineers and their mission, go online to <http://www.usace.army.mil/Pages/Default.aspx>.

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Army orders uniform access to Web sites

By LEO SHANE III
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Army officials have ordered network managers at 81 U.S. locations to unblock Web sites such as Facebook, Flickr and Twitter as part of an effort to standardize access to the popular social networking tools.

On Wednesday, Wired Magazine's Danger Room blog posted a copy of the Web filtering order, which said the change was based on "the intent of senior Army leaders to leverage social media as a medium to allow soldiers to tell the Army story."

For now, the order from 7th Signal Command applies only to networks in the U.S. under the Army's Installation Management Command, including Fort Hood in Texas, Fort Lewis in Washington and Fort Bragg in North Carolina.

Stephen Bullock, strategic communications director for 7th Signal Command, said information management directors at the 81 locations were informed of the changes in mid-May, and should be allowing access to the sites by now.

The order mandates that base computers allow access to five sites — Facebook, Flickr, Twitter, Vimeo and Delicious — but does not make any changes on the list of 12 sites banned on Defense Department computers worldwide that the Pentagon released two years ago.

Those sites — YouTube, MySpace and Pandora, among others — remain inaccessible through government computers at the bases, although there are no such restrictions on soldiers with

personal computers using nondefense networks. Other sites with pornographic or objectionable material are also banned under Pentagon guidelines.

The new 7th Signal order also tells network administrators to start making changes in their Blackberry telephone servers to allow mobile versions of the sites to be accessed through the cell phone networks.

Army officials have been using the social media sites for years as a recruiting and public relations tool. The Army.mil homepage has links to the five allowed sites and Youtube. Fifty-five Army installations have Flickr photo pages and 39 others have official Facebook accounts for news alerts.

But Bullock said as service leaders have encouraged troops to use the tools, inconsistency in access to the sites has frustrated those efforts.

The order applies only to Installation Management Command because so far they're the only subordinate command to fall under 7th Signal Command, which was stood up this spring.

Over the next few years, Bullock said, all domestic Army commands will integrate into their network systems and rules, at which time officials hope to have a network access standard for all U.S. Army bases.

Last month's order has no effect on overseas bases; guidance will come from their respective signal commands, Bullock said.

Bullock could not comment on why the five Web sites listed in the order are now allowed while the 12 others are still banned.

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You don't look a day over 233



MARK PATTON/Stars and Stripes

Children hold up a sign wishing the U.S. Army a happy 234th birthday at Wiesbaden Army Airfield, Germany, on Friday. A parade was part of a weeklong celebration put on by the garrison's Child, Youth & School Services. The official birthday is Sunday.

Women more likely to be victims of sex assaults in the military

DALLAS — Women are 20 times more likely than men to endure sexual assault or sexual harassment in the military, according to specialists who counsel such veterans.

On Thursday, Heidi Koehler, a psychologist at the Dallas VA Medical Center, detailed problems with assault and harassment — which the VA collectively refers to as military sexual trauma — during a meeting of a national VA panel. She also outlined the services provided to victims.

The VA's Advisory Committee on Women Veter-

ans met in Dallas this week to determine whether the needs of female veterans are being met. The group meets three times a year.

"Military sexual trauma is something that has been on the rise," said Col. Shirley A. Quarles, the advisory committee's chairwoman.

The Pentagon said in a report earlier this year that it received 2,923 reports of sexual assault across the military in the 12 months ending Sept. 30. That represents an increase of about 9 percent over the totals reported the year before, but only a fraction of the crimes presumably being committed.

From The Associated Press

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Military spouses seek residency benefits

By **KIMBERLY HEFLING**
The Associated Press

SPRINGFIELD, Va. — Don't expect a rush order if you call Joanna Williamson's jewelry business. She's a military spouse, and it's moving season.

About 800,000 servicemembers move each year — nearly half during the summer. Moving is a ritual repeated nearly every three years on average for military families.

It's also one that Williamson and other military spouses say could be made easier.

They are asking Congress to let military spouses opt to claim the same state of residence as their wives or husbands, who are allowed by law to keep their original

residency as they relocate.

Having that option, the spouses say, would prevent many hassles associated with every move, such as obtaining a new driver's license and reregistering to vote. In some cases, it would eliminate the need for couples to file separate tax returns, and lower the income taxes that some spouses pay.

"It may seem like that's just such a tiny little thing to get your driver's license changed and go change your registration. How is that such a big deal? When you move over and over and over again, it starts to become a really big deal," said Williamson, 38, from her kitchen in a Washington suburb as movers loaded her family's belongings.

The move to Port Hueneme, Calif., is the sixth in eight years for Williamson and her husband, Lt. Cmdr. Marcus Williamson, 39, who have two children. Days after they arrive in California, he will go to Afghanistan for his third war deployment since the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. She will enroll the children in a new school, move the family into the new house, then get a new driver's license.

Congress passed the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act in the 1940s to help eliminate the hassles of moving so troops could concentrate instead on fighting. Under the law, servicemembers who owe taxes on their main income pay it in the state of residency.

A little more than half of all troops today are married, a higher percentage than in World War II. But being married to a service-member can be a professional sacrifice.

Military spouses are less likely to be employed, more likely to be seeking work, and earn less than those married to someone in the civilian workforce, according to a 2005 RAND Corp. study. Frequent moves are a major factor in the difference.

A happy military spouse is considered vital to keeping a servicemember in the military, and government programs in recent years have sought to help spouses train in easily transferrable jobs.

Williamson said she would like

to have the same residency as her husband: Gainesville, Fla., where they married, his family lives and they plan to retire.

Instead, her residency has bounced to Mississippi, Rhode Island and Georgia.

"I think at this crucial time ... years into our conflict, it's one of the small ways that we can say that we recognize the sacrifice of the military spouse," she said.

The legislation is sponsored by Sens. Richard Burr, R-N.C., and Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., and Rep. John Carter, R-Texas. Under it, the spouse would have to have residency in the same state as the military member to take advantage of the law, and doing so would be optional.

Officials seek contestants for Lake Ogawara Queen Pageant

MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan — Japanese officials are seeking contestants for the 2009 Lake Ogawara Queen Pageant's American division.

Entrants must be U.S. citizens, reside in the Misawa area and be between 15- and 25-years old. And everyone who enters must be able to attend the July 19 Lake Ogawara Festival and the Aug. 22 Misawa Festival.

Entrants must complete an application form with two enclosed photos to the Mi-

sawa International Association before 5 p.m. on June 28.

Applicants chosen for a second screening will be interviewed at a later date.

The queen will be crowned — and presented the 50,000 yen prize (about \$500) — at the Lake Ogawara Festival.

For more information and an entry form, contact the Misawa International Association at 0176-51-1349.

Japan chapter of DAR is looking for new members

Daughters of the American Revolution is looking for prospective members

within the military community in Japan, according to a news release.

Women 18 or older who can trace their lineage to an ancestor who fought for American independence is eligible. The Japan chapter of the group can assist with genealogical research.

For information, e-mail Joan Dimmit at: lvjoand@aol.com.

Fraser set to take over U.S. Southern Command

Air Force Lt. Gen. Douglas Fraser, deputy commander of the U.S. Pacific Command, will head the U.S. Southern

Command beginning June 25.

Fraser, whose promotion to general was confirmed June 10 by the Senate, has served in his current role since April 2008, according to a news release.

His new area of responsibility includes Central America, South America and the Caribbean.

Fraser is a 1975 Air Force Academy graduate and former fighter squadron commander. His familiarity with his new area extends beyond his military career: He lived in Bogota, Colombia, for more than three years and graduated from high school there, according to the release.

From staff reports



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Stop-loss bonus on way to vote

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The House and Senate reached a compromise Thursday to give a \$500 retroactive bonus to soldiers for every month they were forced to stay in the military beyond their enlistment term since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

Rep. John Murtha, chairman of a key subcommittee that funds the military, said \$534 million was allocated under the deal. His office says a total of 185,000 military members qualify.

Those eligible would have one year to claim the payment.

The deal has to be approved by the House and Senate.

Minister: No hope for Manas

Stars and Stripes

Kyrgyzstan's foreign minister said his country has no intentions of reversing a decision to evict U.S. forces from Manas Air Base, despite a letter President Barack Obama recently sent to the Kyrgyz president seeking greater cooperation between the two countries, The New York Times reported.

"The decision to abolish the agreement on the military air base, Manas, has been made, and there is no turning back from this," Foreign Minister Kadyrbek Sarbayev told the Kyrgyz online news agency, www.24.kg.

The U.S. was informed in February that it had six months to pull its forces from the base, which has been a critical staging point for operations in Afghanistan since 2001. It also has served as a major NATO transit hub.

President Kurmanbek Bakiyev's office said in a statement Thursday that Obama had sent a letter thanking Bakiyev for his nation's support in the war efforts and expressing "his desire to strengthen various forms of cooperation between the United States and Kyrgyzstan."

The U.S. military has not begun closing down operations at Manas, a military spokesman at the base told the Times.

NATO backs McChrystal choice

Troops set for Afghan elections; no permanent increases pledged

By JOHN VANDIVER
Stars and Stripes

NATO defense ministers on Friday endorsed a U.S. plan to reshape the command structure for the war effort in Afghanistan, which puts U.S. Army Gen. Stanley McChrystal in charge of all international security forces operating in the country and installs a new deputy to manage daily operations.

During the two-day conference in Brussels, the U.S. and NATO failed to win pledges of additional troop commitments from its member countries, where there is little support for digging deeper into the nearly 8-year-old conflict with the Taliban.

Jaap de Hoop Scheffer, NATO secretary general, acknowledged the many challenges the internal security forces face in Afghanistan, which is experiencing more violence now than at any other time since the fall of the Taliban in 2001.

"Development is not taking root as fast as we would like or as we would hope. We have our eyes fully open to these challenges, meeting them will not be easy," Scheffer said during the start of Friday's discussions.

However, a plan agreed to during the NATO summit in Strasbourg-Kehl that called for a temporary NATO troop surge in connection with this summer's elections was firm on Friday.

"We have confirmed we now have generated the forces we need to support the elections," Scheffer said.

Eight battalions, consisting of between 8,000 and 10,000 troops, "are being deployed to the country to do what we promised to do," Scheffer said.

There were no commitments made to keep those forces in the country past the election.

During the conference in Brussels, NATO defense ministers worked on a range of issues, including an agreement to reduce the size of NATO's peacekeeping mission in Kosovo and an extension of its counter-piracy effort off the coast of Somalia. NATO's maritime security mission was scheduled to conclude later this month, but ministers on Friday

agreed to deploy another group of ships to conduct patrols in the pirate-infested Gulf of Aden.

"NATO will continue to play its role in the fight against piracy," Scheffer said, adding that six nations will take part in the patrols.

Afghanistan, however, was the primary issue for the defense leaders from the 28-nation alliance.

Despite deteriorating security conditions, Scheffer highlighted some areas where there has been improvement.

For the first time, elections to be held later this summer will be led and organized by the Afghans themselves, Scheffer noted. The Afghan National Army also continues to take on more responsibility, he said.

"Our efforts are in a supporting role. The lead actors must be the Afghan people," he said.

To accomplish that, the NATO training mission will center on strengthening the Afghan National Police, which lags behind the Afghan army in effectiveness, Scheffer said. The Afghan police sustain two-thirds of all security force casualties in the country. Better training and equipment for the police is a must, he said.

A plan to send additional radar planes to provide air traffic control for the increased number of military aircraft in Afghanistan also was agreed to Friday, Scheffer said.

With NATO set to reduce the size of its peacekeeping mission in Kosovo — known as KFOR — from 15,000 to 10,000, contributing countries would in theory have more numbers to send to Afghanistan. But the conference didn't yield any long-term pledges.

In an interview with the BBC before the start of the conference, Gen. John Craddock, NATO's outgoing supreme allied commander, was explicit in the need for more support from NATO member countries. Craddock also said numerous caveats restricting the actions of some NATO troops negatively impacts the flexibility of commanders on the battlefield as they plan and conduct operations.

"Every day I am frustrated,"

Memorial honors fallen



THIERRY ROGE/AP

NATO defense ministers dedicated a new monument to the alliance's killed soldiers in Afghanistan, Bosnia, Kosovo and other conflict zones at their meeting on Friday. More than 1,000 men and women have died while serving in various NATO operations. The monument, donated by Denmark, is near the main entrance to the alliance's headquarters.

Craddock told the BBC. "As a commander I want the requirements to conduct the operation as directed filled up. And yet we have not had the entire statement of requirements filled by NATO members or partners."

At the start of discussions Friday, Defense Secretary Robert Gates presented his new commander — McChrystal — to the assembled defense ministers.

"Because General McChrystal will command your young men and women in Afghanistan, the secretary general and I thought it would be an appropriate courtesy to introduce him to you defense

ministers in person and have him present to hear your thoughts in this meeting," Gates said.

McChrystal, who assumes command Saturday, made only a few brief remarks before listening to the rest of the meeting and then departing for his new post in Kabul.

"I am honored to be selected to command the brave men and women that make up the ISAF. I assure you I take the responsibility very, very seriously," McChrystal said.

E-mail John Vandiver at: vandiverj@estripes.osd.mil

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Soldier accused in shooting is held at Quantico

Stars and Stripes

The U.S. soldier accused of shooting and killing five fellow servicemembers at a clinic on Camp Liberty, Iraq, last month is being held at a Marine Corps detention facility in Virginia while undergoing "evaluations" at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Army officials confirmed Thursday.

Sgt. John M. Russell, 44, of the 54th Engineer Battalion out of Bamberg, Germany, has been charged with five counts

of murder and one count of aggravated assault in the May 11 shootings, which killed an Army officer and a Navy officer on the clinic staff along with three enlisted soldiers who were at the clinic.

Russell is being held at the Marine detention facility in Quantico, Va., during the evaluations, two Army officials confirmed.

"At the conclusion of the evaluations, he will be returned to the confinement facility in Kuwait," said Col. Jerry O'Hara, a spokesman with 3rd Army.

Officials would not say what the evaluations entail, nor did they have information on when or where an Article 32 — the military's equivalent of a grand jury hearing — would take place.

The shootings are the worst case of soldier-on-soldier violence in the Iraq war and highlight the strains faced by troops who undergo repeated combat deployments.

Russell, who was on his third Iraq deployment, had been ordered to turn in his weapon and receive counseling at the Camp Liberty clinic. Shortly after a con-

frontation with clinic staff on May 11, he returned to the clinic with a gun, possibly wrestled from his escort, and began shooting, the military has alleged.

In interviews shortly after the incident, Russell's family said he faced multiple stresses, including mortgage debt and conflict with a unit commander.

Russell joined the National Guard in 1988 and the active Army in 1994, officials have said.

Stars and Stripes reporters Jeff Schogol and Dan Blottenberger contributed to this story.

An Iraqi soldier walks in front of a mosque where Sunni lawmaker Harith al-Obeidi was killed in Baghdad on Friday. Al-Obeidi was shot dead outside the mosque after prayers, officials said, underscoring fears violence could rise ahead of Iraq's national elections next year.

KHALID MOHAMMED/AP



British soldier, two Afghan civilians killed

The Associated Press

KABUL — NATO mortar rounds killed two Afghan civilians during a clash with insurgents in eastern Afghanistan, while a bomb blast killed a British soldier in the south, officials said Friday.

The fighting in eastern Kunar province Thursday began when insurgents attacked NATO forces. The troops fired mortar rounds in response, killing two civilians and wounding five, NATO said.

The statement issued late Thursday did not provide further details on the clash or say whether any insurgents were killed in the firefight. NATO said it was investigating the incident.

Also Thursday, a British soldier was killed in an explosion near the southern city of Kandahar. Britain's Ministry of Defense said the dead soldier was from the Black Watch battalion of the Royal Regiment of Scotland.

Separately, four other Afghan civilians died in Kunar when a truck collided with a NATO vehicle, the coalition said.

Sunni lawmaker slain outside mosque

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — A senior Sunni lawmaker was killed after delivering a sermon during Friday prayers at a mosque in a former insurgent stronghold in western Baghdad, raising fears that violence could escalate ahead of Iraq's national elections next year.

Harith al-Obeidi, who led the main Sunni bloc in parliament, was known as a fierce advocate of human rights and the rights of mainly Sunni detainees — issues that have been flashpoints in relations between the disaffected Islamic minority and the Shiite-led government.

Police said a gunman shot al-Obeidi as he left the mosque. The assailant was chased a few hundred yards down the street by mosque guards and then detonated a grenade, killing himself and an undetermined number of pursuers.

The daylight shooting was the latest example of the militants' continued ability to stage brazen attacks despite heightened security measures and an overall decline in violence nationwide.

It came a day after Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki warned that violence was likely to increase ahead of a June 30 deadline for U.S. troops to withdraw from

urban areas as well as the national elections that are set for the end of January.

Meanwhile, a U.S. commander in the northern city of Mosul announced that Iraqi police have arrested two of their own in connection with the Feb. 24 ambush on an American platoon at a police station that left one U.S. soldier dead.

The two suspects — believed to be an Iraqi police officer and a sergeant — opened fire on a U.S. patrol visiting one of the main Iraqi police training sites. An American soldier and an interpreter were killed and five others were wounded in the attack.

Also Friday, a bomb on a bicycle exploded in Baghdad, killing two people and wounding nine.

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In Pakistan, militants show sophisticated tactics

By ROHAN SULLIVAN
The Associated Press

ISLAMABAD — Two commando-style assaults in Pakistan in the past two weeks show militants can now pierce the iron-fortified gates, concrete barricades and cordons of armed guards that are meant to secure hotels, housing compounds and even police stations across the country.

The level of organization and sophistication of the attacks has been rarely seen in Pakistan. They are designed to send a message that if the military launches an offensive against the Taliban's stronghold near the Afghan border it will face a highly determined and well-prepared enemy, analysts say.

A team of suicide assailants in two vehicles opened fire on security guards, then were able to drive through the main gate of the luxury Pearl Continental Hotel in Peshawar on Tuesday and detonate a huge bomb close enough to the building to collapse part of the reinforced concrete structure.

The tactics mirrored closely an assault exactly two weeks earlier on a police building and a regional headquarters of Pakistan's top intelligence agency in the eastern city of Lahore.

In that attack, gunmen leaped from a van that stopped at a guard post blocking the street leading to the security buildings. They opened fire and lobbed



EMILIO MORENATTI/AP

A Pakistani police officer stands Wednesday next to U.N. car damaged in Tuesday's blast at the Pearl Continental Hotel. Better organized — and armed — insurgents are troubling Pakistan.

grenades at guards, then lifted a heavy boom gate to allow the van through. About 30 died in the blast that erupted moments later.

Mahmood Shah, a former chief of security in the tribal region where Taliban and al-Qaida fighters have become entrenched, said the Peshawar and Lahore attacks mark a shift in strategy for the militants, whose attacks previously have often involved lone

assailants with suicide vests, small improvised bombs or gun ambushes.

"It is an improvement in their tactics; they are trying to enter the target through use of force," Shah told The Associated Press. "It appears that they are in a hurry and they are becoming more aggressive."

The rush may be due to a widespread expectation that the mili-

tary is planning to launch a major operation against the Taliban in the tribal areas of North and South Waziristan. No plans have been announced, but the military success of the month-old offensive to oust the Taliban from the Swat region has emboldened the government and the armed forces, officials say.

The purpose of the Taliban's carefully planned attacks was "to

send a message to the government to stay away from Waziristan, which is their base," said Hasan Askari Rizvi, a Pakistani defense and political analyst.

A day after the May 27 Lahore attack, a senior spokesman claimed responsibility for the Taliban and warned of a wider campaign of violence in major Pakistani cities in retaliation Swat offensive.

The offensive is seen as a test of Pakistan's resolve in fighting militancy and is strongly supported by Washington, where officials have said privately they would welcome a broader operation in the tribal belt.

In September, before the Swat offensive began, a dump truck loaded with explosives blew up outside the Marriott hotel in the capital, Islamabad, killing more than 50 people. In that attack, the truck was driven up to barriers blocking the entrance of the hotel but did not drive through.

Tuesday's attack prompted fresh concerns about security at embassies and other places where foreigners gather. At Western-styled stores and restaurants in Islamabad, gates and guards with shotguns are already the norm, while the U.S. Embassy and most other foreign missions are clustered within a compound surrounded by a high wall topped with razor wire and several other layers of security.



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U.S., KFOR mark a decade in Kosovo

By KENT HARRIS
Stars and Stripes

About a dozen years ago, not many Americans had heard of a place called Kosovo.

The small province in southern Serbia — bordered by the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to the south and Montenegro to the east — didn't make headlines very often. At least until 1998, when tensions flared into open hostility between the predominantly ethnic Albanian population and Serbian forces directed from Belgrade.

Amnesty International estimates that 9,000 civilians, most of them ethnic Albanians, were killed as Serbian forces took on the paramilitary Kosovo Liberation Army, or KLA. Hundreds of thousands of refugees fled their homes and the province as fighting intensified.

Ten years ago this weekend, NATO troops entered Kosovo after Serbia agreed to withdraw its forces following a 78-day allied bombing campaign. At the mission's peak, some 50,000 NATO troops, including 7,000 Americans, kept the peace in Kosovo. By 2003, the number fell to 17,500, including 3,000 Americans.

On Thursday, NATO defense ministers decided to further downsize troop levels in Kosovo, from 15,000 to 10,000.

Today, about 1,400 Americans provide peace and security in southeastern Kosovo from Camp Bondsteel, a sprawling base built on a series of hills shortly after U.S. troops entered the area.

Not much has changed at Bondsteel since the early years following the build-up. Troops live in rows of SEAhuts, shop at the post exchange and eat at the two dining facilities.

Outside the wire, some changes are evident. The roads are better, featuring fewer of the large potholes that some joked were caused by NATO bombing. The cities are cleaner, but piles of garbage still dot the countryside. Fewer generators hum outside shops in those cities, though some rural villages still lack power about half the time. Car washes and counterfeit CD shops — once frequented by U.S. troops — have largely been replaced by restaurants and gas stations.

Change is harder to see on other fronts.

The two main population groups — ethnic Albanians and ethnic Serbs — are still largely divided into separate communities. Tensions remain, even if open hostility does not.

In a March report, Amnesty International said more than 1,900 people remain unaccounted for — some ethnic



PHOTOS BY KENT HARRIS/Stars and Stripes

Staff Sgt. Luis Rivera looks toward the border of Macedonia from a viewpoint in the mountains of Kosovo during a recent patrol. Rivera and his troops meet routinely with Kosovo Border Police and their counterparts across the border to monitor events between the two countries.



Capt. Eddie Morgan, a California National Guardsman who leads a Liaison Monitoring Team in Kosovo, tries to sense the attitude of local residents to a potential return of refugees to the village of Perlepnica.

Albanians taken by Serbian forces and others ethnic Serbs believed to have been captured by the KLA.

ernment in Belgrade, Serbs around the world will never accept the new reality," said Nesa Vesic, an ethnic Serb who has a radio show in the Serbian town of Klokot, a short drive from Bondsteel.

Vesic said he can get along with people from any nationality and has Albanian friends.

Still, he said he won't be voting in the upcoming local elections in November and neither will "90 percent" of Serbs, he said. Just how much of an impact that's having on the fledgling democracy is hard to determine.

Many municipalities today have deputy mayors who are ethnic Serbs. Serbs are generally allowed to travel and conduct business freely. KFOR patrols don't have to escort them anymore. That frees up U.S. troops to focus on two interlocking efforts in their sector.

Capt. Eddie Morgan, a National Guardsman from Eureka, Calif., believes the breakdown in Gnjilane and the towns surrounding it is roughly 88 percent ethnic Albanian and 11 percent Serbian.

SEE KFOR ON PAGE 11

There appears to be far more trust in U.S. and KFOR troops than in local governments.

"The Kosovo population is still not fully integrated into the institutions and government," said Qemaji Mustafa, the mayor of Gnjilane, the largest city in

Multinational Task Force (East). "Especially, the problems with the Serbian population."

Mustafa is referring to how a majority of the Serbian population continues to boycott elections and ignore local governments, and more so after the country declared its independence from Serbia last year.

"The Serbs in Kosovo, Serbian gov-

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KFOR: Patrols see few hostile situations

KFOR FROM PAGE 10

"That's the best educated guess," he said. One of the challenges we have is, the last census was done in 1980 during (Josip) Tito's time," he said, referring to former Tito was the president of Yugoslavia.

Morgan is part of a Liaison Monitoring Team. He and a partner travel around Gnjilane in a civilian vehicle. They wear military uniforms, but not extra protective gear.

They carry concealed weapons. Essentially, they're trying to be seen as nonthreatening. It's not uncommon for local citizens to ask them to resolve issues.

Last week, Morgan was helping solve a dispute about a large tree that appeared ready to fall over on the Serbian church in Gnjilane or the adjacent clinic.

Though U.S. troops could easily handle the job themselves, they want the local residents to do it. And though it seems like a simple issue to resolve, life is rarely uncomplicated in Kosovo.

Morgan finds himself as a mediator on such issues more often than he'd like. "That's not our job, though," Morgan said.

"Our job is to sense. To get the information and report. We're not in the business of resolving issues."

Neither are Morgan's counterparts, technically. Morgan jokingly refers to Capt. Michael Riley, commander of Company A, 185th Combat Arms Battalion, as the "muscle."

It's not exactly a good-cop, bad-cop situation. But Riley and his men generally project a more militaristic posture. They drive in Humvees, wear full-body protection and are heavily armed.

"We're basically the military presence on the ground," Riley said.

Not that they're constantly engaged in battles with anti-American factions like they would be in places such as Iraq or Afghanistan.

In fact, Riley believes there hasn't been a murder in Gnjilane in at least eight years.

Still, they're ready if called upon.

When they see crimes committed, they'll temporarily take people in custody and hand them over to the Kosovo police.

However, ethnic tensions linger in civil society. Most Serbian officers walked off their jobs after Kosovo declared its independence, and many still haven't returned. There's a deadline later this month where they'll lose their

jobs if they don't return. Lt. Col. Lars Staack, whose Task Force Sabre is responsible for patrolling the greater Vitina municipality, said that both local law enforcement and government agencies have a ways to go to reach Western standards.

"They know what 'right' looks like," he said. "Sometimes, they have a hard time getting there."

So soldiers from the 1st Squadron, 18th Cavalry Regiment patrol around their sector every day, looking for trouble spots and working with Kosovo police

and their Kosovo Border Police counterparts.

First Lt. Michael Han, Staff Sgt. Luis Rivera and 1st Lt. Andrew Gallego recently led separate patrols in different areas of the sector. It turned out to be a pretty typical day in Kosovo. Troops don't see — or experience — any open hostility.

"Good thing is, they're not shooting at us," Rivera said. "More importantly, they're not shooting at each other."

E-mail Kent Harris at: harris@estripes.osd.mil



KENT HARRIS/Stars and Stripes

Translator Blerim Sadiku and Sgt. Robert Meggitt talk to a local man during a patrol in the city of Vitina, Kosovo. The man's tractor was stolen in 2000 and he was hoping to receive word on how to get a replacement.

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IN THE WORLD

U.N. Security Council OKs N. Korea sanctions

By EDITH M. LEDERER
The Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — The U.N. Security Council on Friday punished North Korea for its second nuclear test, imposing tough new sanctions, expanding an arms embargo and authorizing ship searches on the high seas with the goal of derailing the isolated nation's nuclear and missile programs.

In a sign of growing global anger at Pyongyang's pursuit of nuclear weapons in defiance of the council, the North's closest allies, Russia and China, joined Western powers and nations from every region in unanimously approving the sanctions resolution.

The resolution seeks to deprive North Korea of financing and material for its weapons program and bans the country's lucrative arms exports, especially missiles. It does not ban normal trade, but does call on international financial institutions not to provide the North with grants, aid or loans except for humanitarian, development and denuclearization programs.

U.S. Deputy Ambassador Rosemary DiCarlo said the resolution provided "a strong and united international response" to North Korea's test in defiance of a ban imposed after its first underground atomic blast in October 2006 by imposing "unprecedented" measures.

"The message of this resolution is clear: North Korea's behavior is unacceptable to the international community and the international community is determined to re-



MARY ALTAFFER/AP

Chinese Ambassador Zhang Yesui, center, speaks to South Korean Ambassador Park In-kook, right, before a Security Council meeting at the U.N. headquarters Friday. The Security Council approved tough new sanctions against North Korea for its recent nuclear test.

spond," DiCarlo said. "North Korea should return without conditions to a process of peaceful dialogue."

China's U.N. ambassador, Zhang Yesui, said the nuclear test had affected region-

al peace and security. He strongly urged Pyongyang to promote the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and return quickly to Beijing-hosted six-party talks aimed at dismantling North Korea's nucle-

ar program.

He said the resolution demonstrates the international community's "firm opposition" to the atomic blast, "but also sends a positive signal" by showing the council's determination to resolve the issue "peacefully through dialogue and negotiations."

North Korea signaled strong opposition to new sanctions before the vote, but its diplomats were nowhere to be seen Friday.

That was in stark contrast to the vote in October 2006 when the North Korean ambassador immediately rejected the first sanctions resolution, accused council members of "gangster-like" action, and walked out of the council chamber.

North Korea reiterated Monday in its main newspaper that the country will consider any sanctions a declaration of war and will respond with "due corresponding self-defense measures." On Tuesday, the North said it would use nuclear weapons in a "merciless offensive" if provoked.

The provision most likely to anger the North Koreans calls on countries to inspect all suspect cargo heading to or from North Korea — and to stop ships carrying suspect material if the country whose flag the vessel is flying gives approval.

If the country refuses to give approval, it must direct the vessel "to an appropriate and convenient port for the required inspection by the local authorities."

The resolution does not authorize the use of force. But if a flag country refuses an inspection at sea — and refuses to direct the vessel to a port for inspection, a report must be made to the Security Council.

U.S. prepared to intercept ships bound for N. Korea

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration said Friday that it is prepared to confront ships believed to be carrying contraband materials to North Korea but will not try to forcibly board them.

White House officials said they expect North Korea will act "irresponsibly" to newly imposed sanctions in response to the rogue nation's recent nuclear tests. The U.N. Security Council on Friday imposed sanctions that included expanding an arms embargo and authorizing ship searches on the high seas.

Susan Rice, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, said U.S. officials would seek permission to board and inspect ships believed to be carrying contraband to North Korea. Such ships would be directed to a nearby port for inspection if they could not be boarded at sea, she told reporters at the White House.

Rice said the U.S. would not be surprised if North Korea reacted to the sanctions with "further provocation."

"There's reason to believe they may respond in an irresponsible fashion to this," she said.

But she said she expects the sanctions to have significant impact on North Korea's financing of its weapons and missile systems.

Rice said the administration was "very pleased" with the sanctions. She called the new resolution, which was supported by China and Russia, an "unprecedented" position by the Security Council.

The United States and many other nations, including China and Russia, have condemned Pyongyang for its underground nuclear test on May 25 and a series of ground-to-air missile test firings.

Rice said that Iran — another nation at deep odds with the United States about a disputed nuclear program — should take a message from how the U.N. responded to North Korea's actions.

— The Associated Press



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Top candidates both declare win in Iran election

The Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — Both President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad and his main reformist challenger declared victory in Iran's election Friday shortly after the polls closed.

The Interior Ministry then released partial results showing hard-line Ahmadinejad with a strong lead. It said he had 68.8 percent of the more than 10 million ballots counted so far. His main challenger Mir Hossein Mousavi had 28.8 percent.

The government has not yet released the total number of votes cast in the tight and tense race.

Iranians packed polling stations from boutique-lined streets in north Tehran to conservative bastions in the countryside Friday with a choice that's left the nation divided and on edge: keeping hard-line Ahmadinejad in power or electing a reformist who favors greater freedoms and improved

ties with the United States.

Crowds formed quickly at many voting sites in areas considered both strongholds for Ahmadinejad and his main rival, reformist Mir Hossein Mousavi, who served as prime minister in the 1980s and has become the surprise hero of a powerful youth-driven movement.

The turnout was massive — with some officials predicting a record-breaking surge to the polls — and voting was extended by two hours to 8 p.m. In previous major elections in Iran, the polls stayed open up to an additional three hours.

There were no reports of unrest or serious problems, but a top Mousavi aide, Ali Reza Beheshti, said some polling stations in northwestern and southern provinces ran out of ballots, claiming it was a "deliberate attempt by the government to keep people from voting."



KAMRAN JEBREILI/AP

Iranian women cast their votes at Masoumeh shrine in Qom, south of Tehran, on Friday.

"I hope to defeat Ahmadinejad today," said Mahnaz Mottaghi, 23, after casting her ballot at a mosque in central Tehran.

Outside the same polling station, Abbas Rezai, 29, said he, his wife and his sister-in-law all voted for Ahmadinejad.

"We will have him as a president for another term, for sure," he said.

The outcome will not sharply alter Iran's main policies or sway

high-level decisions, such as possible talks with Washington. Those crucial policies are all directly controlled by the ruling clerics headed by the unelected Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

But Mousavi has offered hopes of more freedoms at home.

If elected, he could try to end crackdowns on liberal media and bloggers and push for Iran to embrace President Barack Obama's offer of dialogue after a nearly 30-

year diplomatic freeze. He also favors talks about Iran's nuclear program.

Iranians around the world took part in the vote.

In Dubai, home to an estimated 200,000 Iranians, the streets around the Iranian consulate were jammed with voters overwhelmingly favoring Mousavi.

Maliki Zadehmad, a 39-year-old exporter, said, "He is our Obama."

Four Gitmo detainees released to Bermuda

By DAVID SKINNER
AND DANICA COTO
The Associated Press

HAMILTON, Bermuda — Four Guantanamo detainees from arid, predominantly Muslim western China were transferred to this very proper British colony Thursday, marking a bizarre new chapter in their odyssey.

Freed after being locked up seven years, the four men were given ties during their flight to the island and their lawyers gave quick lessons in how to knot them. They kept a low profile after landing and declined to talk with journalists.

They arrived just as islanders were starting to celebrate Bermuda's 400th year of settlement. But Washington's surprise announcement of the transfer set off grumbling by some islanders, and the colonial rulers in London bristled over not being told ahead of time.

The four previously had been expected to join 13 other Chinese Muslims, known as Uighurs, that the Pacific island nation of Palau has just agreed to take in from Guantanamo over the strong objections of China, which calls them terrorists.

The 17 were among Uighurs detained in Afghanistan and Pakistan in 2001, but had been in legal limbo since American authorities decided they were not enemy combatants or a danger to the U.S. and should be let go.

Lawmakers in Congress objected to any Uighurs being released in the U.S., and few other nations

showed any interest in accepting them. Albania took in a few in 2006.

China demands the Uighurs be sent home for trial, but U.S. officials have said they fear the men would be executed if they returned to China.

At the State Department, spokesman Ian Kelly said Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton discussed the transfer with British Foreign Secretary David Miliband on Thursday.

FED holds annual Organization Day



Claire Ancheta, 10, sits still while Far East District human resources manager Monte Howard paints a bird on her face during the FED's annual Organization Day on Friday. The FED compound in Dongdaemun is home to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Seoul.

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IN THE STATES

After shooting, rise of hate groups feared

By BOB DROGIN
Los Angeles Times

SILVER SPRING, Md. — A day after anti-Semitic gunman James Wenneker von Brunn allegedly killed a security guard at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, experts disagreed over whether it was a tragic but isolated event or the latest portent of a growing threat by domestic hate groups.

The danger appeared to come from two directions: far-right fanatics with domestic conspiracy theories and Muslim extremists who oppose U.S. policies abroad.

The number of incidents and death toll are lower now than during the early 1980s and early 1990s — when white supremacists, armed militias and other extremist groups attacked government offices, law enforcement officers and other targets.

Domestic terrorism peaked in April 1995, with the Oklahoma City bombing.

"There's no indication there's an uptick in violence," said Leonard Zeskind, a researcher of white nationalist groups.

"White nationalists periodically go out and shoot people. ... As of yet, I'm not seeing anything new."



ALEX BRANDON/AP

A security officer directs people as they line up for the opening of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington on Friday. The museum was closed Thursday after a shooting on Wednesday left a security officer dead and the gunman wounded.

Violence decreases

In fact, incidents of violence against members of the Jewish faith have fallen in recent years.

The Anti-Defamation League reported on June 1 that vandalism, harassment and physical assaults against Jewish individuals, properties or community institutions dropped last year for the fourth consecutive year.

The league counted 1,352 such incidents last year — including vandalism against the San Francisco Holocaust Memorial and the desecration of graves at a Jewish cemetery in Chicago, down from 1,821 incidents in 2004.

Other experts, however, see a mounting danger as the recession deepens.

Mark Potok of the Southern Poverty Law Center in Montgomery, Ala., warned that his nonprofit group has tracked a sharp in-

crease in what it considers right-wing hate groups over the last eight years — from 602 to 926.

Validating rhetoric

"We may well be seeing a perfect storm of factors that favor this movement," Potok said.

Supporting that argument was a nine-page report issued in early April by the Department of Homeland Security.

Titled "Rightwing Extremism: Current Economic and Political Climate Fueling Resurgence in Radicalization and Recruitment," the report argued that Obama's election and the deep recession "present unique drivers for rightwing radicalization and recruitment."

Work on the report was begun before the 2008 election, and followed a similar analysis of left-wing extremism.

Political leaders in both parties, veterans' organizations and civil rights groups excoriated the report for casting aspersions on military veterans.

Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano apologized to the American Legion and told a House committee last month that the report had been withdrawn.



TV Listing

| Central Europe | SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 12:00 AM | This Week in the Pentagon | Special Event Encore | Special Event Encore | Special Event Encore | Special Event Encore | Special Event Encore | - |
| 12:30 AM | Army Newswatch | This Week in the Pentagon | Grill Sergeants, The | This Week in the Pentagon | Recon | Downrange | Grill Sergeants, The |
| 01:00 AM | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty |
| 01:30 AM | Downrange | Around the Services | Around the Services | Around the Services | Around the Services | Around the Services | This Week in the Pentagon |
| 02:00 AM | - | Recon | Recon Revisited | FNG | Recon Revisited | Recon Revisited | USARJ This Week |
| 02:30 AM | - | State Department Daily Briefing | State Department Daily Briefing | State Department Daily Briefing | State Department Daily Briefing | Grill Sergeants, The | FNG |
| 03:00 AM | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty |
| 03:30 AM | FNG | AFN Europe Report | AFN Europe Report | AFN Europe Report | AFN Europe Report | AFN Europe Report | Battleground |
| 03:45 AM | - | Pacific Report | Pacific Report | Pacific Report | Pacific Report | Pacific Report | - |
| 04:00 AM | This Week in the Pentagon | This Week in the Pentagon | Recon | Grill Sergeants, The | Sun City Soldier | This Week in the Pentagon | Recon Revisited |
| 04:30 AM | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty |
| 05:00 AM | Battleground | Battleground | Battleground | Battleground | Battleground | Battleground | Battleground |
| 05:30 AM | EXchange On Air | Around the Services | Around the Services | Around the Services | Around the Services | Around the Services | Today's Air Force |
| 06:00 AM | All Hands TV | Special Event Encore | Special Event Encore | Special Event Encore | Special Event Encore | Special Event Encore | FNG |
| 06:30 AM | This Week in the Pentagon | Downrange | Downrange | Downrange | Downrange | Downrange | Army Newswatch |
| 07:00 AM | Recon Revisited | FNG | AFN Europe Report | AFN Europe Report | AFN Europe Report | AFN Europe Report | AFN Europe Report |
| 07:15 AM | - | - | Pacific Report | Pacific Report | Pacific Report | Pacific Report | Pacific Report |
| 07:30 AM | American Veteran, The | Recon | EXchange On Air | Recon | Balad and Beyond | Recon Revisited | Grill Sergeants, The |
| 08:00 AM | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty |
| 08:30 AM | Battleground | Battleground | Battleground | Battleground | Battleground | Battleground | Battleground |
| 09:00 AM | This Week in the Pentagon | Tour of Duty | Today's Air Force | American Veteran, The | Grill Sergeants, The | Army Newswatch | Fit Hood On Track |
| 09:30 AM | Army Newswatch | This Week in the Pentagon | Recon | Recon Revisited | Recon | EXchange On Air | EXchange On Air |
| 10:00 AM | Grill Sergeants, The | VA News | Around the Services | Around the Services | Around the Services | Around the Services | Recon |
| 10:15 AM | - | Pacific Report | - | - | - | - | - |
| 10:30 AM | Sun City Soldier | Downrange | Downrange | Downrange | Downrange | Downrange | Recon Revisited |
| 11:00 AM | Recon | EXchange On Air | This Week in the Pentagon | Fit Hood On Track | This Week in the Pentagon | Today's Air Force | Army Newswatch |
| 11:30 AM | FNG | Army Newswatch | All Hands TV | Today's Air Force | American Veteran, The | All Hands TV | This Week in the Pentagon |
| 12:00 PM | Today's Air Force | Special Event Encore | Special Event Encore | Special Event Encore | Special Event Encore | Special Event Encore | Grill Sergeants, The |
| 12:30 PM | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty |
| 01:00 PM | Battleground | Battleground | Battleground | Battleground | Battleground | Battleground | Battleground |
| 01:30 PM | Recon Revisited | Recon | Recon Revisited | Recon | Recon Revisited | Recon Revisited | Balad and Beyond |
| 02:00 PM | This Week in the Pentagon | This Week in the Pentagon | Around the Services | Around the Services | Around the Services | Around the Services | All Hands TV |
| 02:30 PM | National Guard News | Grill Sergeants, The | Pacific Report | Pacific Report | Pacific Report | Pacific Report | Pacific Report |
| 02:45 PM | - | - | AFN Europe Report | AFN Europe Report | AFN Europe Report | AFN Europe Report | AFN Europe Report |
| 03:00 PM | Around the Services | Special Event Encore | Special Event Encore | Special Event Encore | Special Event Encore | Special Event Encore | Army Newswatch |
| 03:30 PM | Around the Services | Recon Revisited | USARJ This Week | This Week in the Pentagon | Grill Sergeants, The | All Hands TV | Today's Air Force |
| 04:00 PM | Around the Services | Today's Air Force | Grill Sergeants, The | Tour of Duty | Army Newswatch | Today's Air Force | Recon |
| 04:30 PM | Around the Services | Downrange | Downrange | Downrange | Downrange | Downrange | This Week in the Pentagon |
| 05:00 PM | Around the Services | Pacific Report | This Week in the Pentagon | EXchange On Air | This Week in the Pentagon | Recon | FNG |
| 05:15 PM | - | AFN Europe Report | - | - | - | - | - |
| 05:30 PM | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty | Fit for Duty |
| 06:00 PM | Benning Report, The | Grill Sergeants, The | Recon | Today's Air Force | American Veteran, The | Grill Sergeants, The | Around the Services |
| 06:30 PM | Grill Sergeants, The | Around the Services | Around the Services | Around the Services | Around the Services | Around the Services | Around the Services |
| 07:00 PM | VA News | Downrange | Downrange | Downrange | Downrange | Downrange | Around the Services |
| 07:15 PM | Pacific Report | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 07:30 PM | This Week in the Pentagon | All Hands TV | Today's Air Force | This Week in the Pentagon | All Hands TV | AFN Europe Report | Around the Services |
| 07:45 PM | - | - | - | - | - | Pacific Report | - |
| 08:00 PM | Army Newswatch | Recon | Recon Revisited | Grill Sergeants, The | Recon Revisited | EXchange On Air | Around the Services |
| 08:30 PM | FNG | State Department Daily Briefing | State Department Daily Briefing | State Department Daily Briefing | State Department Daily Briefing | State Department Daily Briefing | 1st Air Force Now |
| 09:00 PM | Battleground | Battleground | Battleground | Battleground | Battleground | Battleground | Battleground |
| 09:30 PM | Today's Air Force | Around the Services | Around the Services | Around the Services | Around the Services | Around the Services | National Guard News |
| 10:00 PM | Recon | Today's Air Force | Army Newswatch | All Hands TV | Fit Hood On Track | This Week in the Pentagon | This Week in the Pentagon |
| 10:30 PM | American Veteran, The | American Veteran, The | This Week in the Pentagon | Recon | This Week in the Pentagon | Pacific Report | Benning Report, The |
| 10:45 PM | - | - | - | - | - | AFN Europe Report | - |
| 11:00 PM | USARJ This Week | Downrange | Downrange | Downrange | Downrange | Downrange | Downrange |
| 11:30 PM | Grill Sergeants, The | Around the Services | Around the Services | Around the Services | Around the Services | Around the Services | - |

Tobacco: Bill restricts ads, increases oversight

TOBACCO, FROM PAGE 1

The House, which first passed a similar FDA bill in April, voted 307-97 to endorse the version passed 79-17 by the Senate on Thursday.

The measure puts special emphasis on dissuading some of the 3,500 young people who every day smoke a cigarette for the first time.

It prohibits use of candied and flavored cigarettes popular among young people and severely restricts advertisements and promotions targeted toward youth. It bans use of words such as "mild" or "light" that give the impression that the brand is safer. It requires stronger warning labels.

The FDA also would require tobacco companies to reveal the contents of their products and they'd have to seek approval for marketing new products. It gives the FDA power to order changes to ingredients, including tar and nicotine, to protect public health.

Altria Group, parent company of Philip Morris USA, the nation's largest tobacco company, issued a statement Thursday supporting the legislation and saying it approved "tough but reasonable federal regulation of tobacco products" by the FDA. Rival companies have voiced opposition, saying FDA limits on new tobacco products could lock in market shares for Philip Morris, maker of Marlboro cigarettes.

Opposition in the House came from Republicans concerned about government intrusion in private enterprise and tobacco state lawmakers. Rep. Howard Coble, R-N.C., said people in his state believed "allowing the FDA to regulate tobacco in any capacity would lead to the FDA regulating the family farm."

The greater goal of the legislation is to reduce deaths linked to smoking and shrink the annual \$100 billion health care price tag for tobacco-related illnesses.

Smoking is responsible for more than 30 percent of all cancer deaths, said Dr. Douglas Blayney, president of the American Society of Clinical Oncology. The bill, he said, "should have a huge impact on reducing the death and disease brought on by tobacco use."

Obama, who has spoken of his struggle to quit smoking, praised the bill, saying it "will make history by giving the scientists and medical experts at the FDA the power to take sensible steps."

Lawmakers, led by the ailing Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., have been fighting for more than a decade to impose government controls over cigarettes, only to meet strong resistance from the tobacco industry and others. The Supreme Court in 2000 said the FDA did not have authority to regulate tobacco under current law, and the administration of then-President George W. Bush opposed congressional efforts to rewrite the law.

'Rockefeller' gets time for kidnapping

By DENISE LAVOIE
The Associated Press

BOSTON — A German man who called himself Clark Rockefeller and spun fantastic stories about himself during three decades in the United States was convicted Friday of kidnapping his 7-year-old daughter and sentenced to four to five years in prison.

Rockefeller, whose real name is Christian Karl Gerhartsreiter, snatched the girl on a Boston street during a supervised visit last July and fled to Baltimore with her.

The jurors, who began deliberating Monday, rejected the theory put forth by Gerharts-

reiter's lawyers that he was suffering from a delusional disorder and was legally insane. Prosecutors called the diagnosis "preposterous" and said he planned the kidnapping for months because he was angry that his wife had divorced him and gained custody of their daughter, Reigh.

Gerhartsreiter also was convicted of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon for ordering the driver of a sport utility vehicle to pull away with a social worker clinging to the door. The jury acquitted him on another assault count and on a charge of giving a false name to police.

Gerhartsreiter, wearing a dark suit and red-striped tie, looked calm as the verdict was read. He had clasped his hands as he awaited the seating of the jury.

The judge sentenced him to four to five years in state prison on the kidnapping count and a concurrent two to three years on the assault charge.

District Attorney Daniel Conley called the verdict "fair and just" and said hoped it gives Gerhartsreiter's ex-wife Sandra Boss and her daughter "some sense of justice."

"This was a difficult ordeal for this family to endure," Conley said.



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JOHN LOCHER, LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL/AP

Fabian Saldívar, left, helps Alfonso Arredondo, holding his 2-month-old son Emmanuel, by explaining a digital converter box Thursday outside of the La Bonita Market in North Las Vegas, Nev.

Fully digital now

Analog TV signals shut down

By PETER SVENSSON
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — TV stations across the U.S. started cutting their analog signals Friday morning, ending a 60-year run for the technology and likely stranding more than 1 million unprepared homes without TV service.

The Federal Communications Commission put 4,000 operators on standby for calls from confused viewers, and set up demonstration centers in several cities. Volunteer groups and local government agencies were helping elderly viewers set up digital converter boxes that keep older TVs functioning. Any set hooked up to cable or a satellite dish is unaffected.

"When you're alone like me, that's my partner," Patricia Bruchalski, 82, said about her TV.

Bruchalski, a pianist and former opera singer who lives in Brooklyn Park, Md., got assistance Thursday from Anne Arundel County's Department of Aging and Disabilities and a community organization called Partners in Care. After her converter box was installed, Bruchalski marveled that digital broadcasts seemed clearer and gave her more channels — about 15 instead of the three she was used to.

"You're going to be up all night watching TV now," volunteer installer Rick Ebling told her.

Around 15 percent of U.S. households don't have satellite or cable, and they tend to be poorer. Nielsen Co. said minority households were less likely to be prepared for Friday's analog shutdown, as were households consisting of people under age 35.

A survey sponsored by broadcasters showed that Americans are well aware of the switch, thanks to two years of advertising about it. But many people simply procrastinated.

"We know some viewers will wait until the very last minute, or even after June 12, until they take

action," said Paul Karpowicz, second vice chair of the television board of the National Association of Broadcasters.

Fox affiliate WUPW in Toledo, Ohio, cut its signal at 8 a.m., making it one of the first stations to go. By 10:15 a.m., the station's four-person phone bank had received 40 calls, said chief engineer Steve Pietras.

Many callers wanted help connecting their converter boxes, Pietras said. They had put off hooking them up until Friday because they thought that was the day digital broadcasting started. Like most stations, WUPW has been broadcasting digitally for years, alongside analog.

Another cause of confusion is that many stations were moving to new frequencies Friday. That means that even digital TV sets and older sets hooked up to converter boxes need to be set to "re-scan" the airwaves on Friday and over the weekend. New TVs and the converter boxes have menu options, accessible through their remote controls, to enable a re-scan.

Some people might also need new antennas, because digital signals travel differently than analog ones. While an analog station that came in imperfectly might have had static but remained viewable, digital generally comes in all or nothing.

The shutdown of analog channels opens part of the airwaves for modern applications like wireless broadband and TV services for cell phones. The government reaped \$19.6 billion last year by selling some of the freed-up frequencies, with AT&T Inc. and Verizon Wireless the biggest buyers.

The shutdown was originally scheduled for Feb. 17, but the government's fund for \$40 converter box coupons ran out of money in early January, prompting the incoming Obama administration to push for a delay. The converter box program got additional funding in the national stimulus package.

Obama ousts IG who investigated supporter

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama says he has lost confidence in the inspector general who investigates national service programs and has told Congress he is removing him from the position.

Obama's move follows an investigation by IG Gerald Walpin finding misuse of federal grants by a nonprofit education group led by Sacramento Mayor Kevin Johnson, an Obama supporter and former NBA basketball star.

Walpin was criticized by the acting U.S. attorney in Sacramento for the way he handled an investigation of Johnson and St. HOPE Academy, which received nearly \$850,000 in federal grants from the Corporation for National and Community Service.

"It is vital that I have the fullest confidence in the appointees serving as inspectors general," Obama said in a letter Thursday to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Vice President Joe Biden, who also serves as president of the Senate.

"It is vital that I have the fullest confidence in the appointees serving as inspectors general."

President Barack Obama
in a letter to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi

"That is no longer the case with regard to this inspector general."

White House Counsel Gregory Craig, in a letter to Sen. Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, cited the U.S. attorney's criticism of Walpin to an integrity committee for inspectors general.

"We are aware of the circumstances leading to that referral and of Mr. Walpin's conduct throughout his tenure and can assure you that the president's decision was carefully considered," Craig wrote.

Grassley had written Obama a letter pointing to a law requiring

that Congress be given the reasons an IG is fired.

He cited a Senate report saying the requirement is designed to ensure that inspectors general are not removed for political reasons.

Grassley said Walpin had identified millions of dollars in AmeriCorps funds that were wasted or misspent and "it appears he has been doing a good job."

The IG found that Johnson, a former all-star point guard for the Phoenix Suns, had used grants to pay volunteers to engage in school-board political activities, run personal errands for Johnson and even wash his car.

In August 2008, Walpin referred the matter to the local U.S. attorney's office, which said the IG's conclusions seemed overstated and did not accurately reflect all the information gathered in the investigation.

The U.S. attorney's office reached a settlement in the matter requiring Johnson and the nonprofit to repay half of the grants it received.

Obama taps big donors for ambassador slots

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama on Thursday tapped four big Democratic Party donors for plum ambassadorships in Europe and Latin America while naming six career diplomats to posts in Africa, the Middle East and the Pacific. Nominations were for the following posts:

■ **Belgium:** Washington lawyer Howard Gutman, who raised more than \$500,000 for Obama's campaign and personally con-

tributed the maximum \$4,600 to it.

■ **Switzerland and Luxembourg:** Former Virginia Lt. Gov. Donald Beyer, who raised more than \$500,000 for Obama and also contributed \$4,600 to his campaign.

■ **Belize:** Colorado business executive Vinai Thummala, who raised between \$100,000 and \$200,000 for the campaign and donated \$4,500 to it. Thummala's wife, Barbara, contributed \$2,800 to Obama, according to the Center for Responsive Politics.

■ **Romania:** Washington lawyer Mark Gitenstein, who donated more than \$4,000 to now Vice President Joe Biden's presidential campaign and contributed \$1,500 to Hillary Rodham Clinton's campaign.

Career diplomats were nominated to be envoys to Burundi, Tunisia, the Marshall Islands, Oman and Suriname. Obama also chose retired Army Gen. Alfonso Lenhardt to be ambassador to Tanzania.

From The Associated Press

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Supreme Court nominee quizzed on gun rights

By JULIE HIRSCHFELD DAVIS
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Supreme Court nominee Sonia Sotomayor told a senator Thursday that she would follow a historic ruling affirming Americans' right to own guns for self-defense, but pro-gun activists said they still believe she'd work to limit gun rights if confirmed for the high court.

Democratic Sen. Mark Udall of Colorado said Sotomayor told him during a private meeting that she considers the 2008 ruling that struck down a Washington, D.C., handgun ban as settled law that would guide her decisions in future cases. In District of Columbia v. Heller, the Supreme Court held that individuals have a constitutional right to guns.

But the statement gave little comfort to gun rights activists. Conservative Sen. Jim DeMint, R-S.C., said that earlier in the week, Sotomayor told him in a similar closed-door session that she stood by an appellate court decision she signed this year that said the Second Amendment protection from curbs on the right to bear arms applied only to federal laws — not state or local ones. That ruling, *Maloney v. Cuomo*, left it up to the Supreme Court to decide whether the rights recognized in the Heller case applied throughout the country.

The dueling statements called attention to a simmering and politically fraught debate over gun rights that transcends partisan lines. The issue is a tricky one for many Democrats who, like Udall, hail from conservative-leaning states in the South and West and often find themselves at odds with their party's liberal leaders' strong support for gun control measures.

They're under intense pressure from gun rights advocates to oppose Sotomayor's nomination, so pinning her down on the topic is a major concern.

Gun rights activists have cited the *Maloney* decision in accusing Sotomayor of being hostile to gun rights. In the case, Sotomayor and two other judges on the 2nd Circuit appeals court upheld a New York state law banning the possession of "chuka sticks." They said they were bound by an 1886 Supreme Court ruling — not by *Heller*, which didn't address the question of whether the Second Amendment applied to states.

DeMint also questioned Sotomayor about gun rights in a meeting last week, and later criticized her for refusing to say the Second Amendment "protects a fundamental right that applies to all Americans." He said Sotomayor's statement on *Heller* "doesn't tell us much" about her view of the issue given the position she took this year in *Maloney*.

If it were up to Sotomayor, DeMint said Thursday, *Heller* would only apply to federal jurisdictions. "(H)er opinion was that the hundreds of millions of Americans in the 50 states do not have a fundamental right to bear arms. She refused to back away from that opinion in my meeting with her," DeMint said Thursday.

The National Rifle Association also wasn't satisfied.

"We still have serious concerns about positions she's taken in the past, and the answer as far as following precedent is somewhat meaningless, because it does not answer the question of where she stands on the fundamental right of law-abiding Americans to keep and bear arms," said Chris W. Cox, the NRA's chief lobbyist.

Paul Helmke of the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence said Sotomayor was "doing what justices are supposed to do" — adhering to existing law and precedent unless there's a good reason not to.

"She's seen what happens when you make it too easy for dangerous people to get guns," Helmke said.



Supreme Court nominee Sonia Sotomayor during a meeting with Sen. Mel Martinez, R-Fla., on Tuesday in Washington. Gun rights activists have not been satisfied with Sotomayor's statements that she would uphold previous court rulings granting citizens the right to bear arms.

HARRY HAMBURG
AP

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FACES

Bellying up for her role

For 'SNL' alum Maya Rudolph, art once again reflects life

Maya Rudolph is pregnant again, both in real life and on the big screen in "Away We Go."

But don't think for a minute that a feature film career or a second baby would stop her from returning to NBC's "Saturday Night Live."

Rudolph, perhaps best known as part of producer Lorne Michaels' ensemble, has returned for occasional guest shots after leaving the show in 2007 following a seven-year run.

"I talk to Lorne a lot, and he knows where my heart is," Rudolph said. "And he knows he's got a real hold on me. And he knows my weakness. I always tell him, 'I'm an addict. I'm an "SNL" addict.' And I will use again. Oh, I will."

In film, Rudolph has experience playing a pregnant character. In what is widely considered her first standout feature-film performance, she was an expectant radio-show stage manager in Robert Altman's 2006 ensemble piece, "A Prairie Home Companion."

But she wasn't expected to be expecting: Between accepting the role and production, Rudolph became pregnant with her first child with director Paul Thomas Anderson.

"I remember [Altman] told me, 'You're going to

be playing Molly, the stage manager,'" Rudolph said. "And I said, 'So, how do you feel about her being pregnant?' And he said, 'I think that would be great.' And I said, 'Well, that's great, because I'm pregnant.' And he said, 'Oh, that's wonderful. Did you do that for me?'"

The dramedy 'Away We Go' marks the 36-year-old's first major feature-film lead.

matter if I'd been pregnant on the screen a million times," Rudolph said.

"It was so important to the story, and I related so completely to the story, because I felt ... I laughed so hard at the way this depicted this crazy time, when you're expecting a baby, and all the weirdos that come into your life, and opinions. "So, I was happy to put on the belly — the big ol' belly."

— Michael Cidoni/The Associated Press

The dramedy "Away We Go," which opened stateside June 12, marks the 36-year-old's first major feature-film lead, as half of a couple on the road in search of a place to call home.

"I mean, when I read this, it didn't



Focus Features

FOXX KO'D AT APOLLO

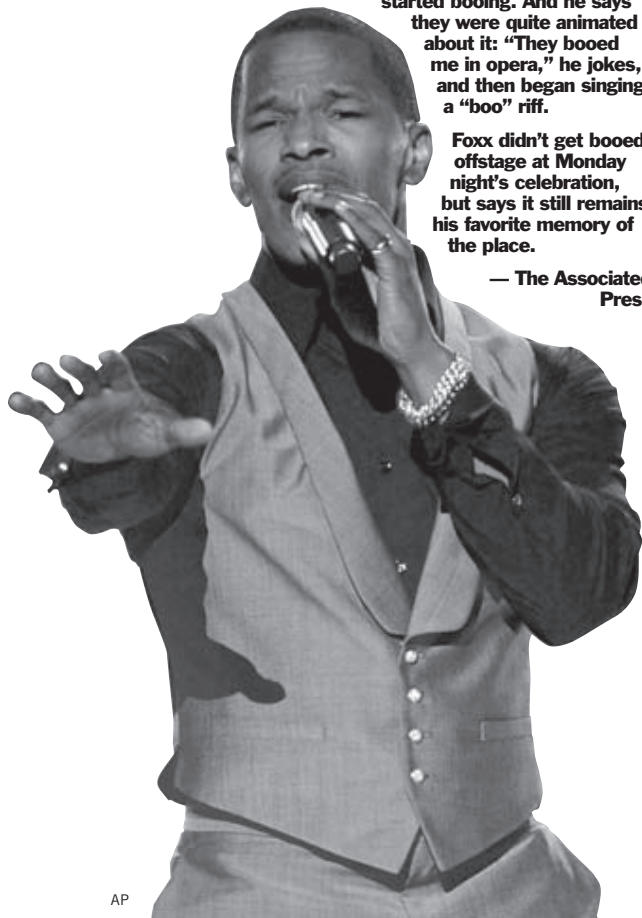
Is there anything Jamie Foxx can't conquer? His first try at the Apollo, apparently. The singer/actor/comedian says the first time he tried his stand-up act on the famed Harlem stage, he was roundly booed.

Foxx gave up the goods on himself as the New York City theater celebrated its 75th anniversary this week. He says it wasn't about his act — the audience heard "He's from L.A." and just

started booing. And he says they were quite animated about it: "They booed me in opera," he jokes, and then began singing a "boo" riff.

Foxx didn't get booed offstage at Monday night's celebration, but says it still remains his favorite memory of the place.

— The Associated Press



AP

Malawi allows Madonna to adopt girl

Madonna can get "Mercy," Malawi's highest court ruled Friday. The court overruled a lower court, saying the pop star can adopt 3-year-old Chifundo "Mercy" James.

Madonna's lawyer Alan Chinula said he called her with the news "in the wee hours of morning in New York, but she is excited at the news."

Chinula said he would now arrange a passport for Chifundo, which could take several days, and was awaiting word from Madonna on travel plans for the girl.

Madonna adopted a son, David, from Malawi last year, but her request to adopt Mercy was originally rejected in April when a lower court said the star had not spent enough time in Malawi.

But Chief Justice Lovemore Munlo, reading the three-judge appeal court panel's ruling on Friday, said that was a narrow interpretation based on old laws and that "in this global village a man can have more than one place at which he resides."

Queen Latifah tells of abuse

Queen Latifah has revealed a traumatic chapter of her personal life: The singer-actress was sexually abused as a child.

In the latest issue of Essence magazine, Latifah says the abuse occurred over a period of time, and at the hands of a teenager charged with watching her.

"He violated me," says Latifah. "I never told anybody; I just buried it as deeply as I could and kept people at an arm's distance."

The 39-year-old entertainer, whose new album "Persona" arrives in July, says the abuse affected her relationships.

She eventually told her parents, and has

gone through therapy to come to terms with what happened.

Brown loses bid to delay trial

Chris Brown lost a bid to delay a preliminary hearing in his assault case, which his attorney argued should wait for a related California Supreme Court decision.

Brown's attorney, Mark Geragos, filed an appeal earlier this month to try to delay the R&B singer's preliminary hearing, now scheduled for June 22.

Two justices from California's Second District Court of Appeal signed an order Wednesday rejecting the arguments. The order did not give a reason why.

Geragos has repeatedly argued that he should be able to see police personnel files, as well as records related to an investigation into the leak of a photo that appeared to show a bruised and beaten Rihanna.

Brown is accused of beating then-girlfriend Rihanna after a party in February.

Brad Pitt shops for art

Brad Pitt was the star attraction Wednesday in Basel, Switzerland, at this year's edition of the world's leading contemporary art fair. He was also a customer.

He bought a painting titled "Etappe" by the German artist Neo Rauch, said Art Basel spokeswoman Maike Cruse.

The David Zwirner Gallery in New York had advertised the work as an "enigmatic and dreamlike" representation of a race car being serviced mid-competition. Its list price was 680,000 euros — about \$960,000.

Christopher Lloyd to rebuild

Actor Christopher Lloyd plans to rebuild on the Southern California site where wildfire destroyed his house last fall. Lloyd's \$11 million house was among hundreds lost in the fires that swept the state. The actor says the fires were an "awesome" experience and left the neighborhood looking like a war zone.

— The Associated Press



Latifah

Walter Scott's Personality PARADE®



Howie Mandel talks to the banker a lot on "Deal or No Deal," but won't reveal his identity.

Q Who's the mysterious banker on NBC's "Deal or No Deal"? — Dee Brice, Wilmington, N.C.
A We asked the show's host, Howie Mandel, to fill us in. "He's a man who sits in a dark room with a computer and no pants on," Mandel joked. "Need I say more?"

Q Our new president loves basketball. Has he ever played with Michael Jordan? — John Hoad, Charleston, S.C.
A Not yet, even though the two go back a long way together. Jordan supported President Barack Obama when he ran for the Senate and maxed out on contributions to his presidential campaign. "While they've never played basketball together," a mutual friend tells us, "I wouldn't rule it out in the future."

Q Has the FCC relaxed its rules concerning foul language on prime-time television? — Michael Bigler, San Antonio

A Though the rules haven't changed, they are complex, hard to enforce, and often challenged in court. "The indecency law applies only to over-the-air broadcasts, not to cable or satellite shows," an FCC spokesman explains, "and only to broadcasts between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m., when there is reasonable risk that children

may be in the audience." But the FCC may be getting its mojo back. The Supreme Court recently instructed a federal appeals court to reconsider a fine against CBS for the 2004 Super Bowl "wardrobe malfunction" fiasco.

Q I heard that the "Seinfeld" cast is reassembling for a new series or special. True? — Gene Anderson, St. Louis, Mo.

A Jerry Seinfeld, Julia Louis-Dreyfus, Michael Richards and Jason Alexander have already finished shooting in L.A. For the first time since "Seinfeld" ended 11 years ago, all four stars will appear together on a series — Larry David's award-winning "Curb Your Enthusiasm." Several episodes will air on HBO this fall.

Q Who is the guy with Sandra Bullock in the ads for "The Proposal"? — J.T., Mesquite, Texas

A That's the versatile Ryan Reynolds, Scarlett Johansson's husband in real life and star of last year's "Definitely, Maybe." "Ryan is one of those rare actors who can do drama and comedy," Bullock tells us. "When I heard he was to play my love interest, I said, 'No one else has all the elements for that part.'" Find out the secret to Bullock's own marriage to Jesse James at Parade.com/Sandra

Q Ethel Merman was known for belting out her songs. Which current singer comes close? — Arnie Weiner, Ventura, Calif.

A We'd nominate Patti LuPone, who revived two of Merman's signature theatrical roles: Reno Sweeney in "Anything Goes" and Mama Rose in "Gypsy," for which she won a 2008 Tony. "I'm honored



Jada Pinkett Smith will join Michael Vartan on "HawthoRNe," a new medical show on TNT.

to be thought of in the same league as Merman," LuPone says. Vote for your favorite belter at Parade.com/voice

Q Has Michael Vartan found a new gig since "Alias" went off the air — or true love since his split from his co-star in that show, Jennifer Garner? — Emilia D., New York City

A "I haven't found love — except the wet-nose, tail-wagging kind," says Vartan of his chocolate Lab, Millie. "But I do have a new show, the nurse-oriented TNT drama 'HawthoRNe,' and a new co-star, Jada Pinkett Smith." Will the two have an onscreen romance? "Maybe a little sexual chemistry," Vartan says, "which is always more fun to play than actual sex."

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Want the facts? Opinions? Truth? Send your questions to Walter Scott at Box 5001, Grand Central Station, New York, N.Y. 10163-5001. Full name will be used unless otherwise requested. Volume of mail makes personal replies impossible.

Sandra Bullock, right, says "The Proposal" costar Ryan Reynolds, left, was the only one for the role.



Sunday Horoscope

The Pisces moon is a favorable time to shift your perspective from the physical to the spiritual. Walk in the shoes of another person to broaden your vision of the world. Recognize when your ego interferes with your ability to see the full picture. When your intentions are pure, your actions will bring about the highest good for all involved.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (JUNE 14). This year brings a full range of emotion — you'll feel vibrantly alive. A fantastic match makes your personal life sing. You are given responsible work in August and the fate of a group depends on you. You'll be brilliant. September and May are fine times for travel. You'll meet new friends and/or love along the way. Libra and Scorpio adore you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You'll be gathering information. Observe what others need and want. Examine different realities. When you can figure out how to make everyone else's life better, yours will improve in bounds.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). There will be a few seemingly directionless moments. When you're not sure what to do next, stand still and ask yourself. There is a guidance system in you that never shuts down.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Though you have a strong opinion, you are still curious to hear what others think. You'll go from small talk to big talk in a snap. Deep discussions and heated arguments will be highlights of the day.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The ones who matter are paying attention to you. You'll be given a platform on which you can really shine. Speak slowly and deliberately, sending a message out to the world that you deserve to be heard.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You will be a master at applying the golden rule, giving only the kind of feelings you would like others to give you. Keep up the good vibes, smiles, laughter, compliments and general

friendliness.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Whether or not you believe in angels, you will be the recipient of a heavenly act, delivered by a being of great beauty. Later, you will pay this kindness forward, intervening to save the day.

Holiday Mathis



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You want to be powerful and you will act to increase your influence. The quest feels awkward to you at this point, which is a good omen. There will be some growing pains as you cultivate your new sense of authority.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You'll get halfway through a project and suddenly feel that it's not worthwhile to continue. Push on anyhow. It's the principle of the matter, not the project itself, that is so important. You're no quitter.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The social situation you face is unique. Extra sensitivity will be required to get an accurate reading. Singles: The person making goofy moves around you is smitten, and not yet confident enough to ask you out.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your awareness of where you are chronologically enriches your style. Whatever your age, it's working for you now. You can do things that you couldn't do at any other time in your life.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). How you physically come across will matter now. It's not everything, but it counts. Your body language, choice of clothing and inner poise all align to make an impact.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Your state of mind is perfect for making new friends — playful, fun, energetic and curious. Some of the people you meet now, you won't see again. This liberates you to be anyone you want to be.

Creators Syndicate

Plain talk may help friend who has trouble listening

Dear Abby: I'm a happily married woman who has always valued my friendships. I feel fortunate to have about a dozen women friends I can talk to, have lunch with and enjoy girls' weekends with.

One of my longtime friends, "Cecily," is a widow. She's an attractive, intelligent, vibrant woman who complains to me that she is lonely and wants companionship.

She has had several relationships since her husband's death, but none have led to marriage.

Not long ago, Cecily mentioned that I'm the last of her girlfriends — the others have drifted away. I think I know the reason.

Cecily is a poor listener and forcefully talks over whomever she's speaking with, which indicates that she's not really listening to the person but instead forming her next thought.

She does it with me often, but realizing she has a need to be heard, I let her talk until she winds down.

I'm afraid that the people she wants to be close to lose interest in maintaining a friendship with her because of it. Should I share

this with her? I believe it is affecting her life and has caused her to slip into a mild depression.

— **Friend Who Cares in New Jersey**

Dear Friend: Sometimes it takes a friend to tell a person a truth that he or she needs to hear. But before you do, first ask yourself: "Is it true? Is it helpful? Is it kind?"

I'd say that in Cecily's case, your message qualifies on all three counts, so go ahead and speak up.

Dear Abby: I married "Kelli" less than a year ago. She's a great person, very positive and a hard worker.

She is not someone I would have imagined myself with five years ago, but I'm almost 30 now, and I thought we'd grow together over time.

Before our wedding I was hit by the worst anxiety of my life. I began feeling that the marriage might be a huge mistake. Sleep became impossible. My mom asked if I wanted to call off the wedding, but I thought it was just pre-wedding jitters.

As I said, Kelli is a great person — but my unease about whether I made a mistake is still with me.

Dear Abby



Despite signs, woman lets boyfriend walk all over her

I'm a 39-year-old woman, dating a guy 10 years younger for about a year.

He swears he's in love, can't live without me, says I'm the best woman he's ever been with, and makes me feel great when he's with me.

However, he rarely answers the phone when I call and has stood me up numerous times.

Whenever I get mad about being stood up, he'll call after a couple of days and either say he was in the hospital or someone died.

Should I move on, or is it possible that he does care but needs to grow up?

I would like to add that our sex life is out of this world.

The truth is, I am turning 40 soon, and I guess he makes me feel young.

— **Confused Or Stupid?** Okay, so your sex life is out of this world. And don't tell me, when you call the guy, his message says, "If I'm not here, I'm probably on the mothership..."

Actually, he has so little respect for you that he can't be bothered to come up with original (let alone plausible) excuses, or call you in a timely manner to deliver them. In fact, he's got you

trained to call him and wait a couple days to hear which of his two excuses it'll be.

What? Somebody died?

People die every second — almost all of them strangers to a guy who isn't exactly living out his final days at Whispering Pines nursing home.

Oh, wait — was he in the hospital again?

Perhaps insurance companies are finally recognizing being a complete jerk as a legitimate medical condition — or did he just sprain an ankle walking all over you?

Sure, mistakes happen. Like, once.

A good guy works 16 hours, lies down for a five-minute nap, and wakes up five hours after he was supposed to pick you up for your date.

He'll be mortified, call you pronto to tell you how sorry he is, and clean out the corner florist to say it again.

Should a date who's a no-show fail to call right away, or claim he was held hostage by bank robbers, the reality is almost certainly one of two things: He isn't a good guy or he isn't a good guy.

Do feel free to believe otherwise — the moment you turn on the local news and see a famil-

I'm also not sure if things will stay as pleasant as they are now.

More troubling is that Kelli wants to start having kids. I do not want to have children, be in a miserable marriage and end up divorced. I have been to counseling to work on my anxiety, but the thought of a child terrifies me.

Kelli has her heart set on having kids. If I tell her I don't want any, it will break her heart. If you have any advice, it would be appreciated.

— **Riddled With Anxiety**

Dear Riddled: Clearly you are not fully committed to your marriage. The only thing worse than not leveling with your wife about your feelings would be to let things continue as they are and for her to become pregnant.

Kelli will be very hurt when she hears the news, so be prepared.

Your counselor can help you break it to her in the kindest way possible.

Do not procrastinate. Your wife deserves a husband who will love her without reservation, and nowhere in your letter did you mention even once that you love her. The bottom line is in the long run you'll be doing her a favor.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at <http://www.uepress.com/dearabby> Universal Press Syndicate

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Two men are held in meat cleaver attack

NY NEW ROCHELLE — Authorities say men collecting a debt from a New York social club owner nearly hacked off his hand with a meat cleaver.

Police Lt. Christopher Hearle says there was only a flap of skin holding the man's hand on when he was taken to the hospital. Two suspects were held at the Westchester County jail following their arraignment on assault and weapon charges.

It's not clear how much money the men wanted, but police believe it was "substantial."

Car lands on tracks, struck by train

IL CHICAGO — Service along the Chicago Transit Authority's Blue Line was disrupted after a car jumped a retaining wall, landed on the tracks and was struck by a train.

CTA spokeswoman Kimberly Myles says the driver got out of the vehicle before the collision and was treated at a hospital.

Several train passengers complained of minor injuries and were taken to hospitals.

Chicago Fire Department spokesman Larry Langford says the car was in an accident with two other vehicles before it jumped the barrier.

Dogs banned at raceway after horse's death

ME BANGOR — Dogs have been banned from the stable and paddock areas at Bangor Raceway after a horse that was spooked by a dog hurt itself and died from internal injuries.

The Bangor Daily News reported that state racing steward Ralph Canney is in the process of gathering more information about the incident and is slated to present his findings to racing commission members in August.

Cemetery marker now lists 61 long-dead boys

MI LANSING — The names of 61 boys who died decades ago at a Michigan school for orphans and troubled youth have been engraved on a cemetery monument.

The youngsters, age 11 to 18, died between the 1850s and 1930s at the long-vanished Boys Vocational School. They are buried at Lansing's Mount Hope Cemetery.

Previously, there was a monument with the school name, but no individuals were listed and only one grave had its own stone.

Man says city taking house over \$50 tax bill

CT BRIDGEPORT — A man in Connecticut says he's losing his home because he owes \$50 in back taxes.

The city of Bridgeport is foreclosing on Jean Castro's home because of the unpaid taxes, which total \$51.69. A judge approved the foreclosure and ordered the home to be sold in December.

Castro says the city sent him a notice that he owed back taxes and he forwarded it to his mort-



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

gage company, which paid \$3,000 in back taxes, leaving the small balance. The city's lawyer says by the time he learned about the payment it was too late because the foreclosure had started.

Agricultural groups say more reform needed

TX LUBBOCK — Texas farm and ranch groups are glad lawmakers have taken steps to revisit eminent domain law but say it's "nowhere near" what's needed in a state where most land is privately held.

Texas Farm Bureau spokesman Gene Hall said if voters approve a constitutional amendment in November, it would bring "improved but still bad eminent domain law" to the state. "It's less than half a loaf," he said, describing the legislation that emerged from the just-completed 140-day session. "The fight goes on."

The bill puts a constitutional amendment on November's ballot that would prohibit government from taking private property exclusively for economic development.

School opens new cancer research facility

VA CHARLOTTESVILLE — The University of Virginia School of Medicine is hoping a new cancer research facility will lead to advances in the field.

The Charlottesville school's \$70.7 million Carter-Harrison Research Building will allow researchers in fields such as immunology to turn their discoveries in

the lab into improvements in immune therapy for cancer.

Development for the project was kick-started by private donations from the Beirne B. Carter Foundation and the Harrison Family Foundation.

Officials say the new facility will help attract top researchers to the medical school and away from competitors such as Johns Hopkins University, Duke University and Harvard University.

Father cited in assault on coach at party

VT SAXTONS RIVER — A June 30 court date has been set for a 47-year-old Michigan man charged with assaulting his son's hockey coach at a high school graduation party.

James Scoggin of Birmingham, Mich., faces a simple assault charge in the May 24 attack on Matt Jones, 27, the boys' varsity hockey coach at Vermont Academy in Saxtons River.

Police say the two men argued at the graduation party and that Scoggin attempted to punch Jones but was restrained by several people.

When Jones left to walk home, police say Scoggin attacked him from behind, struck him in the head several times and threw him to the ground. Jones suffered cuts on his face and knee.

Nearly 30 vehicles pile up on foggy pass

CA SAN BERNARDINO — About 30 vehicles piled up in chain-reaction crashes in heavy morning fog on a Southern California mountain highway. At least 15 people were injured, and wreckage was scattered for a half-mile.

Conditions at the scene on Interstate 15 near the Cajon Pass summit were too foggy for helicopters to fly, so ambulances took the injured to hospitals, said Tom Barnes, a San Bernardino County fire dispatch supervisor. He said 10 people were taken to hospitals and five were assessed by paramedics.

Immigrants indicted in theft of tax refunds

KS WICHITA — A federal grand jury indicted eight illegal immigrants on charges of stealing tax refund checks from Texas workers and using phony IDs to cash them in Kansas.

The indictment accuses immigrants from Mexico and Honduras of using fraudulent Texas driver's licenses in the names of the legal workers whose refund checks were stolen to cash them in Wichita and Hutchinson. It charges them with conspiracy to defraud the United States, illegal re-entry, forgery, aggravated identity theft and possession and use of fraudulent documents.

The dozen or so tax refund checks identified so far in the case were processed at the Internal Revenue Service Center in Austin, Texas, and mailed to apartments in Austin, Houston and Dallas, Assistant U.S. Attorney Brent Anderson said. Federal authorities are contacting the victims, who do not need to take any action, he said.



Light show Lightning strikes the ground in Tyler, Texas, as a severe line of storms moved across the area.



Gone fishin' Roy Watson checks his line while fishing for catfish at the public landing on the Ohio River in Cincinnati. B&B Riverboats are seen across the river in Newport, Ky.



Enjoying the show? Evie Palmer, age 5, reacts along with other children attending a pirate puppet show during story time at the Roswell Public Library in Roswell, N.M.



Bubble boy Brody Davis, 2, poses for a photo by his mother, Kari, at Silverdale, Wash., Waterfront Park.



Boys of summer A surfer catches a wave off Kewalo Basin in Honolulu.



Canhattan Artists created the Empire State Building and surrounding cityscape using 4,000 cans of food in New York. The construction is part of a national Internet Explorer 8 "Browser for the Better" campaign sponsored by Microsoft and Feeding America. The campaign's aim is to drive awareness of the plight of the hungry, particularly needy school-age children who will be on summer vacation and lose access to school lunch programs.



Dog tired

Ayden Denton, 2, from Texarkana, who is being treated at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, gets a closer look at the 2009 Best in Show winner of the Westminster Kennel Club, Stump. Stump and 2001 Best in Show winner, RJ, a bichon frise, both from The Kennel at Champions, greeted cancer patients at the hospital.

County says it will pass out mail-in STD tests

CA LOS ANGELES — Los Angeles county health officials are offering a free, at-home program to test for sexually transmitted diseases.

All women in the county can request free test kits that detect chlamydia or gonorrhea infection by visiting a Web site or calling a toll-free number. The kits are then mailed to the women's homes.

The program is intended to eliminate clinic waits or costs and targets young women of color. There will be 10,000 kits available immediately.

2 suspects held after bank heist, chase

CT BRISTOL — A Massachusetts man has been charged with a Connecticut bank robbery in a heist that resulted in a police chase and shots fired.

Richard Gordon, 35, had previously been charged with interfering with a police officer after the holdup in Bristol. A judge ordered Gordon held on \$2 million bond on robbery and conspiracy charges. His alleged accomplice, Brendan McGarrett, 44, was being held on \$3 million bond.

McGarrett is accused of taking a woman hostage after firing at Bristol and Farmington police during a chase. He was arrested a short time after the bank robbery.

Gordon was arrested several hours later while jogging.

Boat owner pays \$500K fine for illegal fishing

HI HONOLULU — The owner of a Republic of the Marshall Islands-flagged vessel has paid a \$500,000 fine to the U.S. government for illegally fishing in protected waters in the Pacific.

The Marshalls 201, a purse seine fishing vessel, was observed in September 2006 inside an Exclusive Economic Zone near Howland and Baker islands where U.S. National Wildlife Refuges are located.

A Coast Guard ship chased the vessel for four hours. The Marshalls 201 was finally stopped and escorted to Guam. It was determined that the crew caught more than 120 tons of tuna that day.

Topless coffee shop back in business

ME VASSALBORO — A topless coffee shop is now shopless after a fire, but waitresses are serving coffee again.

The Grand View Coffee Shop returned to business in a tent, but amid gloomy weather, the waitresses were sporting sweat shirts instead of the bikini tops they had been wearing.

Owner Donald Crabtree told the Morning Sentinel that the waitresses are volunteering their time and working for tips.

Family Christmas photo turns up in Czech ad

MO ST. LOUIS — It's an international mystery: How did a U.S. family's Christmas card photo end up in the Czech Republic, splashed across a huge storefront advertisement?

Danielle Smith said the photo of her and her husband, Jeff, holding their two children got sent to family and friends and was posted on her blog and a few social networking sites. One of Smith's college friends was driving through Prague recently when he spotted their huge smiling faces in the window of a store specializing in European food. He snapped a few pictures and sent them to Smith.

"It's a life-size picture in a grocery store window in Prague — my Christmas card photo!" said Smith, 36, who lives in the St. Louis suburb of O'Fallon.

Mario Bertuccio, who owns the Grazie store in Prague, said he thought the photo taken from the Internet was computer-generated. When told it was of a real family, he said he started taking steps to remove it.

Monitoring ordered at school where tot choked

NY MINEOLA — A judge has ordered more health and safety monitoring at a Long Island school where a 2-year-old choked to death on a carrot in March.

The judge concluded that children at Carousel Day School are at "minimal" risk despite what he called disturbing allegations.

A monitor testified about children wandering unsupervised, potential fire hazards and staff turnover. He said many of the school's problems have been corrected. But he said it's still overcrowded.

Deputy Tasers woman, 72, during traffic stop

TX AUSTIN — First, the great grandmother refused to sign her speeding ticket. Then she cursed the deputy constable, daring him to shock her with a Taser. So he did.

Now video of Kathryn Winkfein hitting the ground and moaning while the shocks jolted through her body is making national news, and Travis County law enforcement are split over whether the deputy constable acted properly.

Winkfein was pulled over May 11 for driving 60 mph in a 45-mph zone just west of Austin. A dashboard camera in Deputy Constable Chris Bieze's car captured what happened when the 4-foot-11 Winkfein got out of her truck and things turned ugly.

Bieze pushed her to get her away from traffic.

"You're gonna shove a 72-year-old woman," Winkfein said angrily, standing inches from Bieze.

Then came the officer's warnings. "If you don't step back, you're going to get Tased," Bieze said.

"Go ahead, Tase me," Winkfein said. "I dare you."

Congregation at loss after fire at church

NY NEW YORK — A Queens congregation is heartbroken following a fire at a historic church.

Pastor Avelio de Leon says he doesn't know where Maspeth United Methodist Church will hold its next service. The fire gutted the sanctuary of the century-old church and destroyed its central stained-glass window.

Stories and photos from wire services

Republicans head to heartland for 2012

By MIKE GLOVER
The Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa — It's been almost seven months since voters handed Barack Obama the White House, and in the minds of many of Iowa activists that means only one thing: It's time to start the campaign again.

2012 already?

Yes, 2½ years before Iowans gather for their first-in-the-nation precinct caucuses, early presidential campaigning has begun.

"We had a brief pause for two or three months when people went somewhere warm, and then it starts again," said Richard Schwarm, a Lake Mills lawyer and former state Republican Party chairman. "Most of the old war horses hear the bell and start responding again."

Potential Republican candidates who have visited the state include Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal and former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee, who won the GOP caucuses in 2008. More politicians had trips planned, starting with Nevada Sen. John Ensign, followed by Mississippi Gov. Haley Barbour and another appearance by Huckabee.

Several other high-profile Republicans thought to be considering presidential runs, including Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin, former House Speaker Newt Gingrich and former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, haven't visited Iowa since the election.

Of course, politicians say their stops in Iowa aren't related to any presidential ambitions.

Phil Roeder, chief spokesman for the Iowa Democratic Party during the 1988 election cycle, said there's a long tradition of politicians traveling to Iowa to help others.

"It's the smoke screen," Roeder said. "Every candidate has to keep the expectations in check and at the same time it's a great way to make friends in Iowa. If you're here to help others and not just help yourself, it gives you a good list to go back to when it's your turn."

Campaigning for the caucuses begins earlier with each presidential election cycle, but interest among Republicans could be especially strong this time because of last year's example. That's when an underdog first-term senator from Illinois patiently built a huge network of supporters in Iowa, then was propelled by a surprising caucus victory toward the Democratic nomination and ultimately the White House.

"We only have to look at somebody named President Barack Obama to realize that if you do well in Iowa a lot of other pieces fall into place," Republican strategist Bob Haus said. "They take their role very seriously, so candidates take Iowa very seriously."

It doesn't always work that way.

In last year's caucuses, Huckabee emerged with a big triumph. But he never could shake his

underdog status and finally quit when it became clear that Arizona Sen. John McCain would gain the Republican nomination.

The coming presidential campaign cycle almost certainly will be a Republican show because it's unlikely any Democrat will challenge Obama's run for a second term. Obama has visited Iowa once since becoming president and has kept much of his campaign infrastructure in the state.

Tim Albrecht, an organizer for the American Future Fund, and a former staffer for Romney during his presidential run, said

Iowa is the perfect place for potential candidates to hone their message. Romney visited Iowa repeatedly before declaring his candidacy, then held events in the state almost weekly in the months leading to the caucuses.

"You can't find a more fertile soil in America to begin growing the new conservative movement," Albrecht said.

If it's obvious why candidates can't resist heading to the heartland, then do Iowans ever tire of the attention?

Apparently not.

"I think people genuinely think

it's fun, it's interesting, it's exciting," said Roeder, now a spokesman for Democratic Gov. Chet Culver. "People take it pretty darn seriously."

For some, Iowa's place in American politics means a livelihood for those who run and staff campaigns, as well as businesses that cater to campaign gatherings.

"It puts food on the table," said Democratic activist Brad Anderson. "The reality is, it's been half a year since the election, they've had six or seven months to recover and I think people on the Re-

publican side are ready to start the game again."

Even if they wanted to delay campaigning until, say, a year before the caucuses, Drake University political science professor Dennis Goldford said Iowans wouldn't have much luck.

"Whether or not Iowans get tired of it, the fact remains that Iowa is still first in the nation until one or both parties determine otherwise," said Goldford. "Politicians certainly have to fight on the terrain they confront. That terrain starts in Iowa."



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MARY ANN CHASTAIN/AP

The branch of an Oak tree frames the Gardener's Home as visitors tour restored slave cabins at Magnolia Plantation and Gardens in Charleston, S.C. Hundreds of thousands of visitors come each year to see the cabins, which have been restored to show how blacks lived from the days of slavery through the 1920s.

Living on the plantation

Restored cabins give glimpse of slave life

By BRUCE SMITH
The Associated Press

EIGHTY-SIX-year-old Johnnie Leach leans on his cane as he sits in warm sunshine on the steps of the old slave cabin where he raised 13 children four decades ago.

Despite the humble setting and the terrible history of the place, living there is a time he and his family remember fondly.

"The good Lord blessed me. I sent three of them to college from here," he says, reminiscing about his old home.

The building is one of four former slave cabins at Magnolia Plantation and Gardens that have been restored to show visitors the path of blacks from slavery to freedom.

"The time has come to tell this story," says Preston Cooley, a tour guide who helped with the cabin project. "All this beauty you look around and see at this plantation was created by the people who lived on the slave street."

The cabins at the plantation, which attracts tens of thousands each year to the banks of the Ashley River, have been restored to reflect different eras of the black

experience. One appears as it would have during slavery in 1850 with limewashed walls and a loft where sleeping mats were stored. A second shows how freed men lived after the Civil War, some of their furnishings cast off from the plantation house.

The poverty of blacks in the Jim Crow South of the 1920s, walls lined with newspapers for insulation, can be seen in the third.

The Leach cabin is restored to how it looked during the civil rights era.

Visitors with cameras and knapsacks pass through the cabins with their wooden shutters and old brick fireplaces. The buildings say only so much. The real stories belong to those who lived in them.

The Leach family worked on the plantation for four generations, staying on the street until 1969, nearly three centuries after the plantation was built.

They were the last to live in a cabin without modern conveniences, only a single electric line powering a couple of light bulbs.

They got water from a pump, cooked on a wood stove that heated the house and used an outhouse.

Leach added two small rooms

as the family grew.

Their cabin and two others were used into the late 1900s by others, but electricity, running water and toilets were added. Those conveniences were removed as part of the \$500,000 restoration.

"To me it don't have the old looks. It looks like a brand new place," said Leach, who was married and widowed twice, as he looked along the restored slave street.

"Everybody loved the place and it was real good for kids. We played in the dark in the moonshine. I loved the place," recalled Hector Maxwell, 61, Leach's brother-in-law, who lived here for several years in the 1960s.

As the family grew, the older children moved in with relatives or struck out on their own.

Although no one lives on the slave street anymore, it will always conjure home for the Leach family.

"I have a son who just turned 12 and we were approaching the plantation the other day and just getting ready to turn in," Isaac Leach said.

"He said 'Dad, I can't get enough of this place.'"

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OPINION

Honoring flag, veterans is a breeze

By KENNETH L. KIESER

I recently accompanied my wife to Olathe (Kan.) Memorial Cemetery to place flowers on her parents' graves. Afterward we walked down to the veterans area where many brave Marines, Air Force, Navy and Army personnel from World War I to the present are laid to rest. This remarkable cemetery features a World War I bronze soldier standing with a rifle, guarding his fallen comrades.

The entire area is surrounded by 18 huge American flags positioned at half-staff on Memorial Day. Each servicemember's grave is decorated with a smaller version. While there, I noticed the brass fittings for one of the large flags had broken, allowing this most sacred of our country's symbols to touch the ground.

I picked up our flag and did my best to refasten the brass clip; my wife helped me untie the flag to raise it off the ground. There was little wind and it hung limply against the pole as we walked away. My repair job was not perfect, but it was better than allowing this cloth of freedom to lie on the ground.

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We sat down under the bronze soldier to think about those who gave their lives so all Americans could reflect in Old Glory's shadow. I studied the beautiful red, white and blue colors while remembering the words of my father, who served as a Marine in the Korean War: "You will always be all right, long as that beautiful flag is still flying."

Suddenly the wind picked up and all 18 flags stretched out. We sat under a canopy of beauty that represented freedom. A meteorologist might have claimed that barometric pressure from a possible rainstorm created the breeze that caused those flags to open up and highlight their glory. Something told me that the unexpected arrival of this wind was a great deal more.

I can't explain the sensation that flushed through me at that moment. Perhaps it was my imagination. Yet the feeling that I was somehow being saluted for the simple gesture of lifting our symbol of freedom off the ground was overwhelming.

Could those brave men just a few feet away have somehow arranged for that stiff breeze to rise and not only salute me, but all Americans who love our country? Would they have included not only the brave who fight for our freedom, but those who pay their taxes and try to do what is right by our country? Would their message be to thumb our noses at those who detest our flag and everything it stands for?

I never knew one of those men, but I love them all — as I love those fighting and dying for our country today. Our flag is beautiful like a flower, but don't get the wrong impression: This banner of stars and stripes has a lot of muscle and deliberate determination to back it up. Freedom dictates having the backbone and resolve to never back down and be conquered.

A close friend of mine, John Routh, who island-hopped while fighting the Japanese during World War II, talked of friends who often spoke fondly of home while lying in the sulfur-caked soil during their campaign. More than once a sniper's bullet made sure some never returned — including one young man whom John had just talked to moments before. Army, Air Force and Navy veterans could share these same



Courtesy of Olathe (Kan.) Parks & Recreation

Olathe Memorial Cemetery includes this statue of a World War I doughboy.

horrible memories of lost youth from an act of war.

Those young men wanted to be home for mom's cooking, beautiful girls, fishing, movies and perhaps raising a family, but it was not to be. Yet, to a man, they were proud of that flag and everything it stood for. They wanted to go home, but had to die so others could live in freedom.

So was it a big deal that our flag was touching the ground? You'd better believe it! I know that all good Americans would have picked that flag off the ground — I just happened to be the one who found it.

The wind lay, ending my salute as we drove away, and each flag settled back on its pole.

Did those brave men really salute me by briefly raising the wind to make our beautiful flag stand in the wind? It doesn't matter. The only thing that matters is that our flag never touches the ground again.

Writer and novelist Kenneth L. Kieser lives in Olathe. His current novel is "Ride the Trail of Death." This column first appeared in The (Independence/Blue Springs, Mo.) Examiner.



OPINION

What newspapers are saying at home

The following editorial excerpts are selected from a cross section of newspapers throughout the United States. The editorials are provided by The Associated Press and other stateside syndicates.

Some U.S. help not in speech
Daily Times-Call, Longmont, Colo.

When President Barack Obama took the opportunity to address the Muslim community from Cairo, by all accounts, he opened a new dialogue between the West and one of the world's largest religious communities.

But even in his call for increased tolerance and understanding between two very different cultures, Obama could have gone further. ...

Obama could have gone further when talking about how the United States is not the country that it is perceived to be by many in the Middle East. Not only is it a place where freedom allows people of all faiths to advance based upon their abilities; it is a nation whose people are not afraid to defend those whose rights are being violated.

Twice in the past 20 years, the United States used military force to defend Muslim populations — in Bosnia and Kuwait. In the past 10 years, a coalition of Western powers has worked to free Afghanistan from the tyranny of harsh Islamic fundamentalism.

For the rift between the Islamic world and the West to be bridged, Obama and other Western leaders need to reinforce the message that peaceful coexistence and cooperation are key.

Leaders from the Middle East will have to do their part, too. They will need to show with action, not just words, that cooperation can be achieved.

In quite a state over abortion
The Wichita (Kan.) Eagle

Nobody asked Wichitans whether they wanted their community to become ground zero for the abortion issue — or the “bull’s-eye of the abortion industry,” as one local anti-abortion activist regrettably puts it in the film documentary “What’s the Matter With Kansas?”

But the city and the controversial medical procedure became entangled, because Wichita was George Tiller’s home and he was one of a shrinking number of physicians in the United States willing to perform abortions and especially late-term abortions. ...

Is it too much to hope that people now might learn something from Tiller’s death and act accordingly? Any chance we can communicate about abortion civilly and productively, in ways that both promote life and respect women? ...

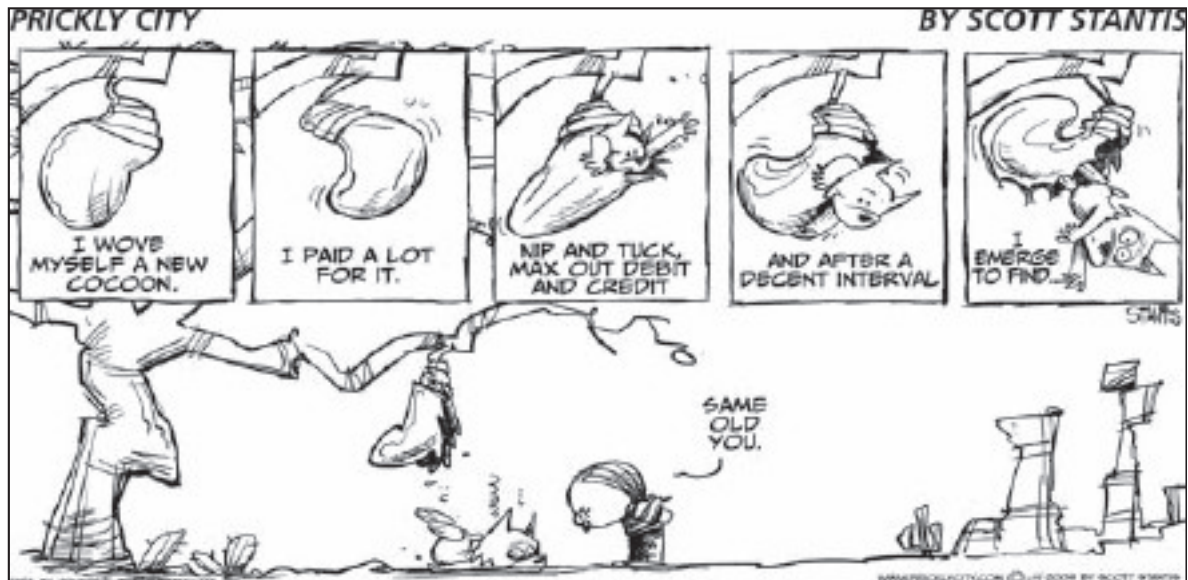
If a fight is what we want, how about getting up in arms about the 300-plus infants who die annually before reaching their first birthdays in Kansas? Or the 22.7 percent of women who receive inadequate prenatal care? Or the 58 girls younger than 15 in Kansas who were in a position to have abortions last year?

Tiller often wore a button saying, “Attitude is everything.” In the wake of his murder, a new attitude on abortion is sorely needed in Wichita and beyond.

Gay marriage debate preferred
New York Post

The wheels of American democracy turn slowly — by design.

But they’re apparently not fast enough for legal hotshots Ted Olson and David Boies (of Bush v. Gore fame), who announced last month that they are mounting



a challenge in federal court to California's recently upheld gay-marriage ban.

If they get their way, the courts would enshrine a nationwide constitutional right to homosexual marriage — and likely spark a new culture conflict of the sort that has simmered since the U.S. Supreme Court's 1973 Roe v. Wade abortion decision.

Americans have only just begun a national debate about gay marriage — a concept unthinkable merely 20 years ago but now seen as a right in much of the country.

... The last thing the country needs is a similar decades-long battle over gay marriage. Especially seeing as a reasoned debate is already starting to break out. ...

Of course, there are competing social issues involved — as [former Vice President Dick] Cheney can attest.

But working out competing claims thoroughly and peacefully — if slowly and often clumsily — is precisely what democracy is for.

Gun cases aiming for showdown
The (Champaign, Ill.) News-Gazette

A Chicago case could be key to settling the meaning of the U.S. Constitution's Second Amendment.

A decision this month by a federal appeals court in Chicago has set the stage for U.S. Supreme Court review about whether citizens enjoy an unfettered right to bear arms.

The U.S. Supreme Court last year struck down a law in the District of Columbia, which is subject to federal jurisdiction, that barred ownership of a handgun. This month, the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the same kind of gun ban in Chicago.

The appeals court held that gun ownership provisions of the Second Amendment do not apply to states and municipalities.

The U.S. Supreme Court ruling was applicable only to federal jurisdictions. But the National Rifle Association challenged the Chicago law because it hopes to extend that right beyond federal jurisdiction. Now it will seek U.S. Supreme Court review, and that is a distinct possibility because the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals has applied the Second Amendment to state and local governments, putting two federal circuits in conflict.

The 7th Circuit panel emphasized in its ruling that it followed long-established precedents. Three court decisions dating back to the late 1800s have held that Second Amendment rights are protected from federal encroachment but subject to regulation in the states and localities. Obviously, this contentious political issue also has roiled the courts, setting the stage for a top-level review.

If interest rates rise, watch out
The (Charleston, S.C.) Post and Courier

Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner unintentionally amused students in Beijing this month when he reassured them that China's heavy investments in America — and in our currency — are “very safe.” The spectacle of young Chinese scholars laughing at our fiscal shortcomings should not amuse or reassure Americans. Neither should proliferating expressions of international frustration over our balance-sheet irresponsibility. ...

Federal Reserve Board Chairman Ben Bernanke's blunt testimony to the House Budget Committee this month wasn't funny or soothing, either. ...

But someday the spending-spree bill will come due. Bernanke warned that the Federal Reserve won't forever “monetize the debt” to cover Washington's profligate habits. Eventually, if runaway deficits persist, interest rates are bound to rise, with devastating consequences. Eventually, as Bernanke put it, “Either cuts in spending or increases in taxes will be necessary to stabilize the fiscal situation.”

And eventually, if we fail to get our fiscal house in order, America won't just be the target of derisive, short-term laughter in China and elsewhere.

America will be the victim of self-inflicted, long-term financial ruin.

Saturn deal: A whole new world
Los Angeles Times

From the time it was conceived by General Motors in the early 1980s, Saturn has always been a “different kind of car company.” That difference may soon become more profound. This month, GM announced an agreement to sell Saturn to Penske Automotive Group, which bought the brand but not the factories that make its cars. Instead, Penske plans to outsource all of the manufacturing. In other words, Saturn will be the first carmaker that doesn't actually make cars. ...

Most car manufacturers already rely on subcontractors to supply key elements, such as brakes and transmissions. Penske is simply taking that trend to its logical extreme. And before Americans lament the potential loss of U.S. manufacturing jobs if and when every Saturn is made somewhere else, they should remember that the process works both ways. Foreign automakers have built numerous factories in the U.S., and much of the work on GM's erstwhile Hummer brand will remain here even after its sale to a Chinese industrial firm. In addition, the deal promises to save thousands of jobs at as many as 350 Saturn dealerships — more jobs, in all likelihood,

than can be found at Saturn's factories.

Repeal No Child Left Behind
The (Lakeland, Fla.) Ledger

State education leaders across the nation are trying to respond to the mess caused by No Child Left Behind. This federal education law attempts to use state education standards and incorporate them into a federal school accountability system. ...

It's an ugly mess that interferes with state efforts to improve education. In an attempt to straighten this mess out, officials from 46 states are trying to agree on a set of national standards that all states can adopt, creating a more uniform system.

The problem is that this development will pave the way for more federal control of education. Once national standards are created, Congress will feel the need to mandate them on all states. Once we have national standards, we might as well have national tests. And once those tests are established, it will make sense to have a national curriculum to teach children to pass those tests. ...

The solution to the problems posed by No Child Left Behind is not national standards and more federal interference. It is the repeal of No Child Left Behind.

Spare nominee the vicious cycle
The Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch

For political commentators and others to examine the evidence that exists of Judge Sonia Sotomayor's competence and character is only natural, but much of the shouting and carrying on about her is overwrought. And Americans should not leap to judgment about her fitness for the Supreme Court before she has had a chance to make her case in confirmation hearings before the U.S. Senate. ...

That's more reasonable than going ballistic over a few of her quotes lifted out of speeches or denouncing her because of the outcome of a single case in her 17-year career as a federal judge.

Influential conservatives, including former House Speaker Newt Gingrich and commentator Rush Limbaugh, have come out swinging. ...

Democrats have their own unseemly history of using innuendo and character assassination against conservative judicial nominees, including painting some as racists.

Some Republicans have indicated that they'll return the favor by giving Sotomayor the same treatment.

But that attitude spurs a race to the bottom. Someone must put a stop to this vicious cycle, and Republicans are in the position to do so.

PERSPECTIVES



BEN CURTIS/AP

President Barack Obama addresses an audience at Cairo University on June 4. In the speech, he called for a “new beginning between the United States and Muslims” and emphasized his Muslim heritage to show Muslims around the world that he empathizes with them as no previous American president possibly could.

Earnest goodwill doesn't make a foreign policy

By ROBERT KAGAN

President Barack Obama likes to see himself as a pragmatist, but in foreign policy he is proving to be a supreme idealist of the Woodrow Wilson variety.

Like Wilson's, Obama's foreign policy increasingly seems to rest on the assumption that nations will act on the basis of what they perceive to be the goodwill, good intentions or moral purity of other nations, in particular the United States. If other nations have refused to cooperate with us, it is because they perceive the United States as aggressive or evil. Obama's job is to change that perception. From the outreach to Iran and to Muslims, to the call for eliminating all nuclear weapons, to the desire for a “reset” in relations with Russia, the central point of Obama's diplomacy is that America is, suddenly, different. It has changed. It is better. It is time, therefore, for other nations to cooperate.

But how has America changed? Obama's policies toward Iran, the Middle East, Russia, North Korea, China, Latin America, Afghanistan and even Iraq have at most shifted only at the margins — as many in those countries repeatedly complain. So what, for instance, is the source of the “new beginning” in U.S.-Muslim relations Obama called for in Cairo?

The answer, it seems, is Obama himself. In the speech, The Washington Post reports, “Obama made his own biography the starting point for a new U.S. relationship with Islam.” Or as The New York Times put it, while “the president offered few details on how to solve problems around the globe,” his basic argument “boiled down to this: Barack Hussein Obama was standing on the podium in this Muslim capital as the American president.”

Critics complain that Obama's speeches are too self-referential. If so, this is not a mark of vanity. It is a strategy. Obama believes that his story is a powerful foreign policy tool, that drawing attention to what makes him different, not only from George W. Bush but from all past American presidents, will persuade the world to take a fresh look at America.

In Cairo, he emphasized his Muslim heritage to show Muslims around the world that he empathizes with them as no previous American president possibly could. His apologies for America's past behavior also highlight his uniqueness. He is not the first president to apologize. Wilson apologized to the peoples of the Western Hemisphere for the interventionist policies of his Republican predecessors (only to outdo them with his own interventions). Bill Clinton apologized to Africans for America's history of slavery. But Clinton accepted responsibility for America's sins as if they were his own.

Obama, on the other hand, does distance himself from America's past sins. His response to Daniel Ortega's long recitation of U.S. misdeeds in Latin America was to point out that he personally had nothing to do with them — “I was three months old.” When he admits American sins in relations with Iran, he wants Iran's revolutionary leaders to distinguish between America, which they hate, and America's new president, whom they can like and with whom they can do business.

Can this work even without fundamental change

in the conduct and parameters of U.S. foreign policy? Obama obviously hopes so.

Take the Israeli-Palestinian issue. Obama calls for a freeze on settlements, but the question for many Arabs and Palestinians is what he will do to force Israel to comply with his demands. Will he cut off aid? The answer is almost certainly no. But Obama must believe that the expression of his good intentions is enough.

Or take Obama's declared desire to eliminate all nuclear weapons. Of course he admits that he cannot make this happen. But he believes that by agreeing with American critics that the present American-dominated order is unjust, he can buy the international goodwill necessary to end Iran's and North Korea's nuclear weapons programs.

Finally, Guantanamo. Who knows when Obama will be able to close it, what he will be able to put in its place or whether, ultimately, he will be able to strike a fundamentally different balance between American security and the legal rights of detainees than was struck by Bush or by previous presidents in times of perceived national security threats. It probably won't be all that different. But Obama hopes that by displaying earnestness, he can build an image of greater moral authority and that this in turn will produce diplomatic results.

This theory may prove correct. Certainly, it will soon be tested. But let us not call it realism. The last president who sincerely pursued this approach was Wilson. He, too, believed that the display of evident goodwill and desire for peace, uncorrupted by the base motives of national interest or ambition, gave him the special moral authority to sway other nations. And Wilson was as beloved around the globe as Obama is today, possibly more beloved, at least for a moment. Millions took to the streets in the great cities of Europe when he crossed the Atlantic in 1918. His gifts to persuade, however, proved ephemeral, and the results of his efforts were, from his own perspective, an utter failure. Not only the nations of Europe but his own United States proved more self-interested and less amenable to moral appeals. We will see whether Obama ... fares better.

Robert Kagan, a senior associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, writes a monthly column for The Washington Post.



PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVAIS/AP

Far from telling the Muslim world to talk to the hand, Obama encouraged cooperation to combat terrorism.

Obama's message tested by Darfur

By CLIFFORD D. MAY

Scripps Howard News Service

After speaking to the world's Muslims from Cairo, President Barack Obama moved on to Buchenwald, site of a Nazi death camp. There, standing with Holocaust survivor and Nobel Laureate Elie Wiesel, he denounced those who deny that the Holocaust occurred and, with solemnity, declared that the world must never again tolerate genocide. ...

So the question should be asked: How will the president of the United States, the world's most powerful leader, translate that poignant poetry into effective policy?

Specifically, what will Obama do about the genocide taking place in the Sudanese region of Darfur? And what will he do about the genocidal threats against Israelis being made by Iran's rulers? Obama's preference is to deal with these matters diplomatically. But regarding Darfur, diplomacy has been tried for years and found wanting. The Darfuri people are black, and they practice a variety of Islam that does not meet with the approval of the militant Islamist Arabs who rule Sudan.

There are 57 nations in the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC). They constitute the most powerful bloc in the United Nations today. And they side with the regime in Khartoum. Russia and China, members of the U.N. Security Council, have made investments in Sudan's oil fields and sell arms to Sudan's military. Those interests override any humanitarian concerns. As a result of all this, there is no way the United Nations would authorize strong measures to save Darfur.

If Obama is to put an end to the carnage and rapes, he will have to act unilaterally or, at

best, with Europe's blessing. Michael Ledeen, a former adviser to the State and Defense departments and now a scholar at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies (the policy institute I run), believes the simplest means to improve the situation would be to destroy the relatively small number of aircraft used by the janjaweed, the militia most responsible for preying on Darfurians. This would both cripple its mobility and send a signal that there is at least one nation in the world still willing to shoulder what Wiesel calls the “moral obligation to intervene where evil is in control.”

As for the militant Islamists ruling Iran, Obama has said it would be “unacceptable” for them to acquire nuclear weapons — a capability to match their intentions. Here, again, the U.N. is rendered impotent by the collusion of the OIC, Russia and China.

The Obama administration is attempting to directly engage Iran's rulers but, so far, the response has not been positive. The president has indicated that he does not intend to hold out his hand indefinitely. ...

Members of Congress from both parties have been working on legislation that would give the White House the means to cut off the gasoline that Iran must import to keep its cars, trucks and military vehicles moving. ... If such pressure helps persuade the Iranian theocrats ... to negotiate in earnest — that would be progress. If not, at least it would become obvious that diplomatic and economic tools are inadequate to the mission, in which case tougher options will have to be contemplated.

Scripps Howard columnist Clifford D. May is president of the Foundation for the Defense of Democracies, a policy institute focusing on terrorism.

AFRTS Television Schedule

Updated sports listings are available on AFN's Web site at <http://myafn.dodmedia.osd.mil/>

SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 2009

| | (AFN-ATLANTIC) | (AFN-FAMILY) | (AFN-MOVIE) | (AFN-NEWS) | (AFN-PACIFIC) | (PENTAGON) | (SPECTRUM) | (AFN-SPORTS) | (XTRA) |
|-------|---|---|--|--------------------------------|---|----------------------|--|---|---|
| 9:00 | CSI: Miami A hostage situation turns into murder. | Emperor New | (8:55) Movie "Kindergarten Cop" (1990, Comedy) Arnold Schwarzenegger, Penelope Ann Miller. | The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer | MLB Baseball Oakland Athletics at San Francisco Giants. From AT&T Park in San Francisco. (Live) | Recon Revisited | MythBusters "Mind Control" Mind control. | NHL Hockey Stanley Cup Final Game 7 - Pittsburgh Penguins at Detroit Red Wings. From Joe Louis Arena in Detroit. (Subject to Blackout) (Live) | (8:00) MLB Baseball Boston Red Sox at Philadelphia Phillies. From Citizens Bank Park in Philadelphia. (Live) |
| 9:30 | Oprah Winfrey | Ben 10 | | Hannity | | State Dept Briefing | | | |
| 10:00 | | Dragonball GT | | | | Fit For Duty | Storm Chasers "A New Season Begins" | | |
| 10:30 | | | | | | AFN Europe Report | | | |
| 11:00 | Dr. Phil | Teenage Robot | Movie "Dances With Wolves" (1990, Western) Kevin Costner, Mary McDonnell, Graham Greene. A Union officer befriends the Lakota. | Anderson Cooper 360 | | Week-Pentagon | Dirty Jobs Mike works with a cave biologist. | | MLB Baseball San Diego Padres at Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim. From Angel Stadium of Anaheim in Anaheim, Calif. (Live) |
| 11:30 | | Kenny the Shark | | | | Fit For Duty | | | |
| 12:00 | CBS Evening News | Teen Kids News | | Special Report With Bret Baier | Ent. Studios | Battleground | Latin Lifestyles | SportsCenter | |
| 12:30 | ESPNNews | Grossology | | Campbell Brown | Criss Angel Mindfreak | Around the Services | Urban Style | | |
| 13:00 | NBC Nightly News | Out There | | | Dogfights "Air Ambush" | FNG Useful benefits. | Designed to Sell | Baseball Tonight | |
| 13:30 | World News-Gibson | Lizzie McGuire | | Your World With Neil Cavuto | Access Hollywood | Army Newswatch | Tyler's Ultimate | NFL Live | |
| 14:00 | Connie the Cow | The Crocodile Hunter "Freshwater Crocs" | | The Rachel Maddow Show | | AFN Europe Report | The Next Food Network Star | SportsCenter | Quick Pitch |
| 14:30 | Ribert & Robert's | | (20) Movie "L.A. Confidential" (1997) Kevin Spacey, Russell Crowe. A young police officer searches for justice in 1950s L.A. | Around the Services | Deadliest Catch "On the Crab" | The Grill Sergeants | New Amsterdam "Love Hurts" | | |
| 15:00 | Sonic the Hedgehog | Animal Miracles "The Body Electric" | | Tavis Smiley | Law & Order "Remains of the Day" | Fi. Hood on Track | Stargate Atlantis "Grace Under Pressure" | Sports | MTV Hits Playlist |
| 15:30 | Danny Phantom | Hercules: The Legendary Journeys "Once a Hero" | | Nightly Business Report | Extreme Makeover: Home Edition "Marrero Family" | Recon | King of the Hill | | Top 20 Countdown |
| 16:00 | Naruto | SpongeBob SquarePants | Movie "Ghostbusters" (1984, Comedy) Bill Murray | Nightline | World News-Gibson | Recon Revisited | That '70s Show | | Top 20 Countdown |
| 16:30 | Darcy's Wild Life | The Fairly OddParents | The Universe The sun scorches Mercury and Venus. | The O'Reilly Factor | ESPNNews | Army Newswatch | The King of Queens | | |
| 17:00 | Ent. Studios | The Universe The sun scorches Mercury and Venus. | | Countdown With Keith Olbermann | Law & Order "By Perjury" | Week-Pentagon | Everybody-Raymond | | ECW |
| 17:30 | Criss Angel Mindfreak | Movie "The Island" (2005, Action) Ewan McGregor, Scarlett Johansson. A mercenary pursues two clones on the run in 2019. | | Today | Leverage "The Two Horse Job" | The Grill Sergeants | My Boys | | |
| 18:00 | Dogfights "Air Ambush" | Movie "The Incredibles" (2004, Adventure) Voices of Craig T. Nelson, Holly Hunter, Samuel L. Jackson. | | MSNBC Live | 48 Hours Mystery "Stolen Beauty" | Fit For Duty | How I Met Your Mother | | WWE SmackDown! |
| 18:30 | | | | | Headline News | Battleground | The Unit "Sacrifice" | | |
| 19:00 | Access Hollywood | Movie "The Incredibles" (2004, Adventure) Voices of Craig T. Nelson, Holly Hunter, Samuel L. Jackson. | | | American Dad | Ballad and Beyond | Prison Break "Scylla" | | |
| 19:30 | Deadliest Catch "On the Crab" | | (23) Movie "Freaky Friday" (2003, Comedy) Jamie Lee Curtis, Lindsay Lohan. | | 'Til Death | All Hands TV | Saturday Night Live | Sports | Best Damn Sports Show Period |
| 20:00 | Law & Order "Remains of the Day" | Made "Ballroom Dancer" | | Bulls and Bears | The War at Home | Pacific Report | | | Attack of the Show! |
| 21:00 | Law & Order "By Perjury" | | (12) Movie "Throw Momma From the Train" (1987) | Cavuto on Business | | Army Newswatch | | | |
| 22:00 | | | | | | Today's Air Force | | | |
| 23:00 | Leverage "The Two Horse Job" | | | | | Recon | | | |
| 23:30 | | | | | | Week-Pentagon | Austin City Limits | | |

SUNDAY, JUNE 14, 2009

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|--|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------|--|-------------------|------------------|
| 00:00 | 48 Hours Mystery "Stolen Beauty" | The Simpsons | (11:12) Movie "Throw Momma From the Train" (1987) | Forbes on FOX | Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Dependent" | FNG Useful benefits. | (11:30) Austin City Limits | (10:00) Sports | Top 20 Countdown |
| 00:30 | | The Simpsons | | Cashin' In | Without a Trace "Hard Reset" Jack goes missing. | Fit For Duty | Dog the Bounty Hunter | | Top 20 Countdown |
| 1:00 | Sports | The Universe The sun scorches Mercury and Venus. | Movie "Boyz n the Hood" (1991) Larry Fishburne, Ice Cube. Three boys become men in a tough L.A. neighborhood. | Newsroom | House "Honeymoon" | Around the Services | Wife Swap "McGoldrick/Noel" | | |
| 1:30 | | So You Think You Can Dance Top 20 dancers perform. | | Your Money | | Around the Services | Boston Legal "Race Ipsa" | | Sports |
| 2:00 | | | | | | Around the Services | | | |
| 2:30 | | | | This Week in the Pentagon | Law & Order "By Perjury" | Around the Services | Judging Amy "Unnecessary Roughness" | Sports | |
| 3:00 | | | Movie "The Island" (2005, Action) Ewan McGregor, Scarlett Johansson, Djimon Hounsou. A mercenary pursues two clones on the run in 2019. | Wall Street Journal Report | Leverage "The Two Horse Job" | First Air Force Now | Austin City Limits "Rosanne Cash; Neko Case" | | |
| 3:30 | | Made "Ballroom Dancer" | | America's News HQ | 48 Hours Mystery "Stolen Beauty" | Battleground | Kiana's Flex Appeal | | Sports |
| 4:00 | | | | Newsroom | The Benning Report | National Guard News | Denise Austin's Getting Fit | | |
| 4:30 | | | | McLaughlin Group | Downrange News from Iraq and Afghanistan. | | Take Home Chef | | |
| 5:00 | Sports | Mister Rogers' Neighborhood | (23) Movie "Freaky Friday" (2003, Comedy) Jamie Lee Curtis, Lindsay Lohan. | Our World With | Headline News | The Grill Sergeants | Throwdown With Bobby Flay | | |
| 5:30 | | Barney & Friends | | The Situation Room With Wolf Blitzer | Headline News | Fit For Duty | Music and the Spoken Word | | |
| 6:00 | | Sesame Street | (12) Movie "Gardens of Stone" (1987) James Caan. Arlington cemetery sergeant loves anti-Vietnam War newswoman. | FOX Report | House Call-Dr. Sanjay Gupta | Fit For Duty | Top 3 | Sports | |
| 6:30 | | | | Washington Week in Review | Entertainers | This Week in the Pentagon | Day of Discovery (Part 4 of 8) | | |
| 7:00 | | Davey and Goliath | Movie "Doctor Zhivago" (1965, Historical Drama) Omar Sharif, Julie Christie, Geraldine Chaplin. A Russian doctor experiences the Bolshevik Revolution. | Army Newswatch | Life on the Way | USARJ This Week | Cafe Video | | Sports |
| 7:30 | | VeggieTales | | Today's Air Force | T.D. Jakes | FNG Useful benefits. | The Universe Astrobiologists search for life in space. | | |
| 8:00 | Sports | Postman Pat | | The Chris Matthews Show | Love Worth Finding | Fit For Duty | Shootout "Battle of the Bulge" | | |
| 8:30 | | 3-2-1 Penguins! | | Newsroom | The Pure Life Starting over | Battleground | Shootout "The Big Red One" The 1st Infantry Division. | | |
| 9:00 | | The Magic School Bus | | Journal Editorial Report | Grand Ole Opry Live | Recon Revisited | The Suze Orman Show | | Sports |
| 9:30 | | Fetch! With Ruff Ruffman | | Fox News Watch | MotorWeek | Fit For Duty | | | |
| 10:00 | | Codename: Kids Next Door | | Larry King Live | At the Movies | Battleground | All-Girl Getaways | | |
| 10:30 | Sports | Archie's Weird Mysteries | Movie "A Raisin in the Sun" (2008, Drama) Sean Combs, Phylicia Rashad. Members of a black family differ on how to spend insurance money. | Geraldo at Large | Mail Call On location at Fort Knox Kentucky. | Today's Air Force | Quick Fix Meals | | |
| 11:00 | | Growing Pains | (2:53) Movie "Jaws 2" (1978) Roy Scheider, Lorraine Gary. Tourist town and police chief dread huge white shark at beach. | | Doomed Sisters of the Titanic | Recon Revisited | Iron Chef America Chefs compete. | SportsCenter | |
| 11:30 | | Planet's Funniest Animals | Movie "House Party" (1990, Musical Comedy) Kid 'N Play, Full Force. Two teenage rappers try to throw a party. | Huckabee | Anthony Bourdain: No Reservations "Peru" | Fit For Duty | Star Trek: Voyager "Bliss" | SportsCenter | Sports |
| 12:00 | | Full House Jesse falls in love. | | FOX Report | Dirty Jobs "Chimney Sweeper" Chimney sweep techniques. | Battleground | Heroes "Fallout" | Sports | |
| 12:30 | | The Brady Bunch | (10) Movie "Keep the Faith, Baby" (2002) Harry J. Lennix, Rep. Adam Clayton Powell Jr. condemns discrimination. | Newsroom | Washington's Generals "Horatio Gates" Horatio Gates. | This Week in the Pentagon | King of the Hill | | Sports |
| 13:00 | McLaughlin Group | Movie "Rugrats Go Wild" (2003, Comedy) Voices of Bruce Willis, Chrissie Hynde. | | Glenn Beck | The Chris Matthews Show | Recon | That '70s Show | | |
| 13:30 | ESPNNews | Movie "Rugrats Go Wild" (2003, Comedy) Voices of Bruce Willis, Chrissie Hynde. | | | ESPNNews | FNG Useful benefits. | The King of Queens | | |
| 14:00 | Washington Week in Review | Movie "Rugrats Go Wild" (2003, Comedy) Voices of Bruce Willis, Chrissie Hynde. | | Newsroom | 20/20 | Today's Air Force | Everybody Loves Raymond | | |
| 14:30 | House Call-Dr. Sanjay Gupta | Movie "Rugrats Go Wild" (2003, Comedy) Voices of Bruce Willis, Chrissie Hynde. | | This Week in the Pentagon | Medium "A Necessary Evil" | Fit For Duty | Eli Stone Feelings between Eli and Maggie resurface. | | |
| 15:00 | Entertainers | Honey We're Killing the Kids "Season 1 Recap" | | Army Newswatch | Kitchen Nightmares "Black Pearl" | Battleground | Dirty Sexy Money "The Star Witness" | | Sports |
| 15:30 | | | | Today | Headline News | Recon Revisited | | | |
| 16:00 | Life on the Way | SpongeBob SquarePants | | CBS News Sunday Morning | Saturday Night Live | This Week in the Pentagon | Mad Men "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes" Changing times. | | |
| 16:30 | T.D. Jakes | The Fairly OddParents | | Face the Nation | | National Guard News | Seinfeld "The Virgin" | Outside the Lines | Sports |
| 17:00 | Love Worth Finding | Planet Earth "Pole to Pole" Seasonal effects. | | | | Around the Services | Friends | Sports Reporters | |
| 17:30 | The Pure Life Starting over | So You Think You Can Dance | | | | Around the Services | Law & Order "Cherished" | Sports | Sports |
| 18:00 | Grand Ole Opry Live | Smallville Clark fears his identity will be discovered. | | | | Around the Services | | | |
| 18:30 | | 90210 Naomi is taken by Liam, a hot bartender at her hotel. | | | | Around the Services | | | |
| 19:00 | MotorWeek | Touched by an Angel "Psalm 151" | | | | Around the Services | | | |
| 19:30 | At the Movies | Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman "Having It All" | | | | Around the Services | | | |
| 20:00 | Mail Call On location at Fort Knox Kentucky. | | | | | Around the Services | | | |
| 20:30 | Doomed Sisters of the Titanic | | | | | Around the Services | | | |
| 21:00 | | | | | | Around the Services | | | |
| 21:30 | | | | | | Around the Services | | | |
| 22:00 | Anthony Bourdain: No Reservations "Peru" | | | | | Around the Services | | | |
| 22:30 | | | | | | Around the Services | | | |
| 23:00 | Dirty Jobs "Chimney Sweeper" Chimney sweep techniques. | | | | | Around the Services | | | |
| 23:30 | | | | | | Around the Services | | | |

News

Sports

Weather

MIDDLE EAST HEADLINES

Alleged serial rapist barred from work at U.S. bases in

SCOREBOARD

Pacific scoreboard for the April 8 edition

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Military News

Sports

Weather

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YOUR MONEY

STEVE WILSON/MCT



High oil prices are back

How will increasing energy costs affect economic recovery in the States?

By CHRIS KAHN
The Associated Press

Energy prices are starting to soar again.

Oil prices, for starters, have broken free of the fundamentals that usually rule the market, rising despite a glut in surplus crude oil. Benchmark crude climbed to its highest level in eight months Thursday, touching \$73.23 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Gas prices at the pump have been surging too, reaching a national average of \$2.63 a gallon.

What could spiking prices mean for a country trying to break free of a recession? Is there a risk that expensive oil and gas will make it harder for the economy to recover?

Here are some questions and answers about the economic consequences of high energy prices.

Q: How do rising energy prices affect the economy?

A: Americans buy so much gasoline that a \$1 increase in pump prices means a \$140 billion annual hit on the economy. That's \$140 billion that won't go into savings accounts, college funds, restaurants or toward movie night. And economists believe that more spending is what is needed to help pull the country out of recession.

James Hamilton, an economist at the University of California, San Diego, said that energy costs now add up to more than 6 percent of American consumer spending. At that rate, people start rearranging their budgets.

"The money has got to come from somewhere," Hamilton said. "People either have to save less or spend less."

Historically, that means they'll hold off on buying everything from a new car to a new pair of shorts for the summer. Even underwear gets a few extra miles during a



PAUL SAKUMA/AP

A Chevron customer pumps gas at a dealership in San Francisco on Tuesday. Retail pump prices have risen steadily since late April to a national average of near \$2.63 a gallon.

recession, economists say.

Gas prices have added roughly 60 cents a gallon since the start of May, and they're again flirting with \$3 a gallon in California, Illinois, Michigan and Washington, according to auto club AAA, Wright Express and Oil Price Information Service.

Rising gas prices, along with high unemployment rates around the country, will likely force a lot more belt tightening this summer. This year, though, consumers may have a much milder reaction to expensive gas than they did last year, when oil spiked to more than twice its current price, UCLA economist Edward

Leamer said.

"The first time you get slapped in the face, it hurts," Leamer said. "The third or fourth time, it feels kind of normal. So that's what you're seeing now. You don't see people getting as irate when they see the price of gas go up."

Q: Which industries are most affected by rising energy prices? And if I work in an unrelated industry, will I feel the

effects?

A: Energy-intensive industries like shipping companies, airlines and trucking companies are hit hardest — but, yes, it does filter down to nearly everyone.

For example, airlines pointed to higher fuel prices last year when they cut flights to smaller hubs and started charging for checked bags.

Q: Does all this mean it might take longer to emerge from the recession?

A: It's possible. Spending more on gas, heating oil and other petroleum products can leave businesses with less money to hire new workers or give raises. Consumers would have less to spend as well, and the economy would take longer to heal.

Q: If we're in a recession, why are energy prices spiking — and how long can this go on? Am I going to be paying \$3 for a gallon of gas? How about \$4?

A: Energy prices can fall when an economy slumps, as manufacturers shutter factories and laid off workers keep their cars off the road. But gas prices usually rise in the summertime as leisure travelers hit the road.

Many experts are predicting a gradual drop in gas prices this year. However, many states, such as California, already are seeing prices of \$3 a gallon in some places.

Much of what is happening now in energy markets is being blamed on money pouring out of Wall Street as a hedge against a weakening U.S. currency. Commodities like oil and gas attract investors during uncertain times because they're solid, tangible investments; also, a weak dollar makes it cheaper for foreigners to invest in oil and gas. All that increased investor demand pushes up prices.

Almost all experts say the gasoline price increases can't last, but those same experts say they're shocked that gas has soared past \$2.50 this spring.

The Energy Department's Energy Information Administration predicted on Tuesday that consumers will be paying a national average of \$2.70 a gallon by July, before prices level off.

Americans buy so much gasoline that a \$1 increase in pump prices means a \$140 billion annual hit on the economy.

YOUR MONEY

Foreclosure numbers dip 6% in May

BY ALAN ZIBEL
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The number of U.S. households on the verge of losing their homes dipped in May from April, and the annual increase was the smallest in three years.

But as layoffs, rather than risky mortgages, become the main reason that borrowers default on their home loans, foreclosures likely will remain elevated this year and into 2010. Many economists expect unemployment, now at 9.4 percent nationwide, to rise as high as 10 percent, and some project it will exceed the post-World War II record of 10.8 percent.

Foreclosure filings fell 6 percent in May from April, according to RealtyTrac Inc. More than 321,000 households received at least one foreclosure-related notice last month — 18 percent more than a year earlier — but the smallest annual gain since June 2006.

Despite the drop from April, it was the third-highest monthly rate since Irvine, Calif.-based RealtyTrac began its report in January 2005, and the third straight month with more than 300,000 households receiving a foreclosure filing.

One in every 398 U.S. homes received a foreclosure filing last



GAIL BURTON/AP

A large group waits to register for a free foreclosure prevention summit in Baltimore last week. Foreclosure filings fell 6 percent in May from April, according to RealtyTrac Inc.

month, according to the foreclosure listing firm's report.

The mortgage industry has resumed cracking down on delinquent borrowers after foreclosures were temporarily halted by mortgage finance companies Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac and other lenders.

Banks repossessed about 65,000 homes in May, up from 64,000 in April, due to big increases in several states including Michigan, Arizona and Nevada.

After banks take over foreclosed homes, they usually put them up for sale at deep discounts, pulling down prices for other sellers. Nationwide, sales of foreclosures and other distressed properties made up about 45 percent of the

market in April, according to the National Association of Realtors.

The supply of new foreclosures had diminished in recent months as banks held off on taking back properties, but it's starting to surge again, said Gary Kent, a San Diego real estate broker who focuses on the foreclosure market.

"Everything I've got that's priced right is just flying off the shelves," he said.

On a state-by-state basis, Nevada had the nation's highest foreclosure rate in May, with one every 64 households receiving a filing. California took the No. 2 slot previously occupied by Florida. California's rate was one in every 144 households.

Credit card rates unlikely to drop

Dear Liz: Can you tell me if the new credit card reform bill will apply to interest rates that were raised in the past? In other words, if a rate was unjustly raised, will the card issuer be obligated to lower it when the new law begins?

Answer: No. Credit card companies won't have to adjust rates and can continue to raise rates for any reason until the law goes into effect in February 2010. At that point, issuers will be restricted from raising rates on existing balances unless the increase is because of a change in the card's variable rate, the rate was in a promotion period which has ended or the cardholder is 60 days or more late with a payment.

Card issuers will be able to raise interest rates on future purchases but will have to give 45 days notice before doing so. The coming restrictions mean card issuers are likely to continue jacking up rates and fees while they still can, industry experts say.

Dear Liz: Is there any downside to refinancing? I have 15 years to go on a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage at 6.625 percent. I'd like to take advantage of today's lower rates, but the only way I could lower my payment substantially would be to switch to another 30-year mortgage. We crunched the numbers for a 15-year mortgage, but the payment would be about the same.

It feels odd to sign up for a 30-year loan at age 54, but my primary reason to refinance would be to protect myself in case of the unexpected, such as a job loss. I have no other debt and my credit is excellent.

Answer: The benefits of refinancing wane the longer you've been paying down your loan. You're far enough into your mortgage that refinancing to another 30-year loan will increase the total interest you pay over the life of the loans, even if your interest rate drops substantially.

If your mortgage was originally \$200,000, for example, you could pay more than \$60,000 in additional interest by refinancing the balance at the midway point, as you're considering.

There are situations where reducing a monthly payment is so important that it's worth the extra cost. If you couldn't afford the current payments or were far behind in saving for retirement, you could make a case for refinancing.

But you'll want to do the math for your particular situation before proceeding. The mortgage calculators at HSH Associates Financial Publishers, at www.hsh.com, can help.

Liz Pulliam Weston is the author of the book "Your Credit Score: Your Money and What's at Stake." Questions for possible inclusion in her column may be sent to 3940 Laurel Canyon Blvd., No. 238, Studio City, CA 91604, or via the "Contact Liz" form at www.askliz-weston.com. Distributed by No More Red Inc.

Money Talk



Liz Pulliam Weston

THURSDAY'S MARKET SUMMARY

INDEXES

| 52-week High | Low | Name | Last | Net Chg | % Chg | YTD % Chg | 52-wk % Chg |
|--------------|----------|--------------------------|----------|---------|-------|-----------|-------------|
| 12,369.23 | 6,469.95 | Dow Jones Industrials | 8,770.92 | +31.90 | +0.36 | -0.06 | -27.76 |
| 5,329.34 | 2,134.21 | Dow Jones Transportation | 3,399.88 | +8.40 | +0.25 | -3.88 | -33.07 |
| 528.07 | 288.66 | Dow Jones Utilities | 353.54 | +7.46 | +2.16 | -4.64 | -31.41 |
| 9,209.97 | 4,181.75 | NYSE Composite | 6,163.13 | +65.07 | +1.07 | +7.05 | -31.12 |
| 2,374.65 | 1,130.47 | Amex Index | 1,643.34 | +28.97 | +1.79 | +17.59 | -28.35 |
| 2,485.00 | 1,265.52 | Nasdaq Composite | 1,862.37 | +9.29 | +0.50 | +18.09 | -22.54 |
| 1,370.63 | 666.79 | S&P 500 | 944.89 | +5.74 | +0.61 | +4.61 | -29.48 |
| 878.99 | 397.97 | S&P MidCap | 598.64 | +3.55 | +0.60 | +11.21 | -29.74 |
| 14,009.18 | 6,772.29 | Wilshire 5000 | 9,700.49 | +59.58 | +0.62 | +6.75 | -29.08 |
| 764.38 | 342.59 | Russell 2000 | 526.08 | +2.37 | +0.45 | +5.33 | -26.92 |

| NYSE | | | | AMEX | | | | NASDAQ | | | |
|---------------------------|----------|-------|-------|---------------------------|----------|------|-------|---------------------------|----------|-------|-------|
| Most Active (\$1 or more) | | | | Most Active (\$1 or more) | | | | Most Active (\$1 or more) | | | |
| Name | Vol (00) | Last | Chg | Name | Vol (00) | Last | Chg | Name | Vol (00) | Last | Chg |
| Biogen | 5103764 | 12.97 | +0.99 | Hemisphere | 172606 | 2.55 | -0.07 | PwShs QQQ | 1275777 | 36.82 | ... |
| SPDR | 2368817 | 94.82 | +0.42 | PSCrudeOil | 130198 | 4.76 | +0.09 | Level3 | 769418 | 1.65 | +0.32 |
| DirFinBear | 1573169 | 4.41 | -0.08 | OilSands | 43778 | 1.26 | +0.09 | Microsoft | 644313 | 22.83 | +0.28 |
| Citigroup | 1597316 | 3.48 | ... | CapAcquis | 39243 | 9.73 | +0.12 | CpstrnTrb | 585832 | 1.32 | +0.58 |
| DirFinBull | 1583448 | 10.41 | +0.16 | NovoGld | 37323 | 4.73 | +0.07 | Intel | 527267 | 16.35 | -0.11 |
| SPDR Fnd | 1534182 | 12.41 | +0.10 | GoldStg | 25626 | 1.98 | -0.05 | FifthThird | 458414 | 7.77 | +0.43 |
| Ford | 1320250 | 5.98 | -0.21 | Nbtss | 25996 | 2.26 | +0.03 | Cisco | 444247 | 20.10 | +0.15 |
| RegionsFnd | 1019233 | 4.37 | +0.37 | GranTrng | 24923 | 3.36 | +0.06 | HuntBnk | 436946 | 4.13 | +0.10 |
| US NGSFnd | 941002 | 14.80 | +0.76 | Taseko | 24064 | 2.05 | +0.10 | EvergrSlr | 376557 | 2.79 | +0.28 |
| SprintNxt | 769450 | 5.08 | +0.24 | Metalico | 22362 | 3.58 | +0.60 | eBay | 330397 | 17.88 | +0.25 |

| KEY DEFENSE STOCKS | | | | | | KEY MUTUAL FUNDS | | | | | |
|---------------------|------|-----|-------|-------|----------|-----------------------------|-------|-------|----------|--|--|
| Name | Div | PE | Last | Chg | YTD %Chg | Name | NAV | Chg | YTD %Ret | | |
| Alliant Technology | ... | 20 | 90.06 | +0.33 | +0.50 | Fidelity Invest: GroCo | 56.93 | +0.37 | +16.3 | | |
| Boeing | 1.68 | 18 | 50.66 | -1.64 | +18.7 | Fidelity Spartan: EqlxInv | 33.58 | +0.21 | +6.0 | | |
| Computer Sciences | ... | 6 | 44.64 | +0.62 | +27.0 | Fidelity Invest: USBI | 10.69 | +0.04 | +0.9 | | |
| General Dynamics | 1.52 | 9 | 59.29 | +0.25 | +3.0 | Fidelity Invest: Ovrsra | 27.84 | +0.45 | +11.0 | | |
| General Electric | ... | 40 | 9 | 13.46 | -16.9 | Fidelity Invest: GroInc | 13.72 | +0.07 | +4.4 | | |
| Halliburton | ... | 36 | 16 | 24.33 | +9.7 | Fidelity Invest: AMGrp | 12.26 | +0.08 | +13.8 | | |
| Harris Corp. | ... | 83 | 29.95 | +0.15 | -16.8 | Amer Century Inv: Ultra | 16.26 | +0.03 | +12.5 | | |
| Allied Signal | 1.21 | 10 | 35.79 | +0.19 | +9.0 | Putnam Funds A: GrInA px | 10.06 | +0.05 | +8.1 | | |
| L-3 Communications | 1.40 | 10 | 73.65 | -0.40 | -2.2 | AIM Investments A: ChartA | 12.84 | +0.08 | +10.6 | | |
| Lockheed Martin | 2.28 | 11 | 82.22 | -0.71 | -2.2 | AIM Investments A: Const p | 17.52 | +0.04 | +4.0 | | |
| Northrop Gr | 1.72 | ... | 48.17 | +0.27 | +6.9 | Frank/Temp Frnk A: SMCGrA | 24.04 | +0.15 | +18.5 | | |
| Raytheon | 1.24 | 11 | 45.67 | +0.07 | -10.5 | DWS Invest S: GroIncS | 12.01 | +0.06 | +10.0 | | |
| Rockwell Intl. | 1.16 | 11 | 33.34 | +0.31 | +3.4 | Fidelity Advisor T: EdnT | 17.76 | +0.17 | +5.2 | | |
| Texas Instruments | ... | 44 | 22 | 20.84 | -12 | Fidelity Advisor T: GroOpT | 22.95 | +0.10 | +20.5 | | |
| Textron Inc. | ... | 08 | 11 | 11.23 | -20 | DWS Invest S: IntlFds | 39.21 | +0.55 | +13.1 | | |
| United Technologies | 1.54 | 12 | 55.55 | +0.05 | +3.6 | Putnam Funds A: GIBEdy p | 7.09 | +0.10 | +11.3 | | |
| | | | | | | Lord Abbett A: DevGTA p | 13.19 | -0.01 | +24.3 | | |
| | | | | | | Fidelity Advisor T: OvrsraT | 14.56 | +0.21 | +8.4 | | |
| | | | | | | DWS Invest S: CorpPnc | 9.76 | +0.03 | +2.7 | | |

EXCHANGE RATES

| Military rates | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Japanese yen (June 15) | 95.00 |
| South Korean won (June 15) | 1,220.00 |
| Euro costs (June 15) | \$1.4364 |
| Dollar buys (June 15) | € 0.6962 |
| British pound (June 15) | \$1.68 |
| Commercial rates | |
| Bahrain (Dinar) | 0.3770 |
| British pound | \$1.6358 |
| Canada (Dollar) | 1.1243 |
| China (Yuan) | 6.8364 |
| Denmark (Krone) | 5.3419 |
| Egypt (Pound) | 5.5990 |
| Euro | \$1.3942/0.7173 |
| Hong Kong (Dollar) | 7.7507 |
| Hungary (Forint) | 199.04 |
| Israel (Shekel) | 3.9400 |
| Japan (Yen) | 98.26 |
| Kuwait (Dinar) | 0.2879 |
| Norway (Krone) | 6.3656 |
| Philippines (Peso) | 47.60 |
| Poland (Zloty) | 3.21 |
| Saudi Arabia (Riyal) | 3.7503 |
| Singapore (Dollar) | 1.4541 |
| South Korea (Won) | 1,248.50 |
| Switzerland (Franc) | 1.0843 |
| Thailand (Baht) | 34.09 |
| Turkey (New Lira) | 1.5397 |

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

PRECIOUS METALS

| New York Merc close | |
|---------------------|----------|
| Gold | \$961.30 |
| Silver | \$15.481 |

INTEREST RATES

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Prime rate | 3.25 |
| Discount rate | 0.50 |
| Federal funds market rate | 0.00-0.25 |
| 3-month bill | 0.17 |
| 30-year bond | 4.69 |

Sources: Bank of America, The Associated Press

Dodd endorses creation of new consumer protection agency

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Sen. Christopher Dodd, D-Conn., chairman of the Senate Banking Committee, Thursday announced his support for the creation of a new agency with broad authority to protect consumers of financial products such as mortgage loans and credit cards.

The Obama administration plans to propose such an agency this week as a key piece of its agenda for the reform of financial regulations. Dodd, whose committee will play a crucial role in legislating those reforms, had reserved judgment until now.

The new office would strip away a major part of the responsibilities of the federal agencies that regulate banks, particularly the Federal Reserve.

"The economic mess we're in is rooted in a spectacular failure of consumer protection," Dodd said in a statement.



Sen. Christopher Dodd

The statement added that the Fed "failed for over 14 years to put an end to the predatory mortgage lending practices that led to the financial crisis."

Buffett may add sunshine to damp Bonnaroo



MARK HUMPHREY/AP

Alison Krauss and Robert Plant perform at the Bonnaroo music festival in Manchester, Tenn., last June.

BY JAKE COYLE
The Associated Press

MANCHESTER, Tenn. — The eighth annual Bonnaroo Music Festival got under way Thursday with stormy weather, but it did little to dampen enthusiasm as music's favorite beach bum unexpectedly joined the lineup.

One act, the San Diego rock band Delta Spirit, had their set postponed several hours because of weather-related travel difficulties. But the festival announced a late addition so identified with sunny weather that he would seem a hopeful good luck charm: Jimmy Buffett.

Buffett, who started his career in Nashville before finding his musical path in the Florida Keys, was scheduled to play Saturday, joining Ilo and the Coral Reefer All-Stars, a group led by a friend of Buffett's: guitarist Ilo Ferreira.

The Thursday evening slate of Bonnaroo was a mere appetizer for the 3-day megafestival, held on a 700-acre country site about an hour's drive south of Nashville. A handful of buzzed-about bands — White Rabbits and Passion Pit among them — took to one of the festival's five stages and enjoyed a dry early evening before lightning and rain returned.

More than 100 acts were to follow in the coming days, including headliners Phish and Bruce Springsteen.

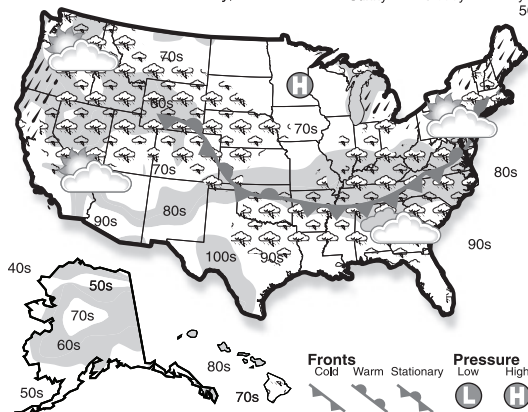
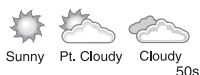
This year's Bonnaroo bowed with hopes for a greener festival, aiming to cut down on two scourges typical of giant festivals: trash and water bottles.

One of the more curious sights at this year's festival is the many volunteers stationed around the grounds next to garbage cans. The volunteers — dubbed "trash talkers" — have been positioned to make sure people dispose of trash correctly in bins for either recycling, compost or "landfill."

WEATHER OUTLOOK

National forecast

Forecast highs for Saturday, June 13



Thunderstorms Rumble Across The Nation

A Pacific storm system moving into the West combined with a front draped across the southern half of the country will bring scattered thunderstorms and showers to much of the nation. Temperatures throughout the West will remain cool.

Weather Underground • AP

Yesterday's global temperatures

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| City Hi Lo Weather | La Paz, 57 26 clr |
| Amsterdam, 60 50 rn | Lima, 71 58 pc |
| Athens, 93 68 clr | Lisbon, 84 64 clr |
| Auckland, 62 53 rn | London, 70 52 rn |
| Baghdad, 111 82 clr | Madrid, 92 57 clr |
| Basra, 120 97 clr | Managua, 89 39 rn |
| Bahrain, 106 89 clr | Manila, 88 77 pc |
| Bangkok, 90 78 pc | Mecca, 110 91 clr |
| Barbados, 88 79 pc | Melbourne, 52 38 pc |
| Barcelona, 77 64 clr | Mexico City, 86 60 pc |
| Beijing, 89 60 clr | Montevideo, 55 41 pc |
| Beirut, 85 71 clr | Montreal, 73 52 cdy |
| Belgrade, 83 60 rn | Moscow, 82 60 rn |
| Berlin, 64 51 rn | Nairobi, 78 53 pc |
| Bermuda, 82 74 pc | Nassau, 87 74 rn |
| Bogota, 68 51 pc | New Delhi, 104 87 pc |
| Brasilia, 79 57 clr | Nice, 90 60 clr |
| Brisbane, 60 39 clr | Osaka, 80 66 pc |
| Brussels, 63 51 rn | Oslo, 59 46 rn |
| Bucharest, 93 56 rn | Panama, 84 77 rn |
| Budapest, 80 59 rn | Paris, 68 51 rn |
| Buenos Aires, 55 42 clr | Perth, 62 46 rn |
| Cairo, 95 73 clr | Prague, 66 50 rn |
| Calgary, 73 42 pc | Rio de Janeiro, 75 68 rn |
| Caracas, 93 79 clr | Rome, 82 60 clr |
| Colombo, 86 78 pc | San Jose, 84 68 rn |
| Copenhagen, 57 48 rn | San Juan, 87 76 rn |
| Dhahran, 120 84 clr | San Salvador, 89 71 rn |
| Dhaka, 95 76 rn | Santiago, 75 31 clr |
| Dili, 89 65 clr | Sao Paulo, 68 59 rn |
| Dubai, 105 84 clr | Sapporo, 63 58 rn |
| Dublin, 59 42 rn | Seoul, 78 57 rn |
| Frankfurt, 65 53 rn | Singapore, 92 82 pc |
| Geneva, 73 55 rn | Sofia, 89 60 pc |
| Guatemala, 82 64 pc | Stockholm, 66 50 rn |
| Hanoi, 90 78 rn | Sydney, 60 41 clr |
| Harare, 66 48 pc | Taipei, 86 78 rn |
| Havana, 89 64 clr | Tegucigalpa, 84 64 rn |
| Helsinki, 66 53 pc | Tehran, 89 69 clr |
| Hong Kong, 84 77 rn | Tel Aviv, 88 68 pc |
| Islamabad, x x rn | Tokyo, 75 66 rn |
| Istanbul, 81 67 clr | Turin, 82 59 pc |
| Jakarta, 89 60 rn | Toronto, 64 51 rn |
| Jerusalem, 88 68 pc | Tunis, 87 63 clr |
| Johannesburg, 52 45 rn | Valletta, 88 68 clr |
| Kabul, 82 59 pc | Vancouver, 73 54 pc |
| Kiev, 90 65 pc | Vienna, 74 49 rn |
| Kuala Lumpur, 94 76 rn | Warsaw, 74 50 rn |
| Kuwait, 114 82 clr | Zurich, 69 57 rn |

SUNDAY'S FORECAST



Air Force Weather/www.afweather.af.mil

Yesterday's U.S. temperatures

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| City Hi Lo Precip Weather | Casper 57 47 .18 cdy | Erie 69 58 .08 cdy | Jacksonville 94 73 cdy | Montgomery 93 71 .01 cdy | Richmond 88 69 .28 cdy | Spokane 80 54 cdy |
| Ablene, Tex. 93 73 cdy | Charleston, S.C. 92 68 .28 cdy | Eugene 71 53 cdy | Juneau 70 54 rn | Nashville 83 66 2.51 cdy | Roanoke 77 65 .50 rn | Springfield, Ill. 73 57 cdy |
| Akron, Ohio 70 59 .79 cdy | Charleston, W.Va. 80 63 .36 rn | Evansville 83 67 .31 cdy | Kansas City 77 61 cdy | New Orleans 93 75 cdy | Rochester 70 57 .62 cdy | Springfield, Mo. 80 61 cdy |
| Albany, N.Y. 74 62 .59 rn | Charlotte, N.C. 86 65 .03 cdy | Fairbanks 75 61 cdy | Key West 88 81 mm cdy | New York City 62 61 .68 rn | Rockford 75 51 cdy | Syracuse 76 61 2.47 rn |
| Albuquerque 80 60 clr | Chattanooga 87 69 .40 cdy | Fargo 70 48 cdy | Knoxville 83 66 .51 cdy | Newark 64 62 .78 rn | Sacramento 79 55 cdy | Tallahassee 96 72 cdy |
| Allentown, Pa. 67 61 .38 rn | Cheyenne 61 40 .51 cdy | Flagstaff 66 34 cdy | Lake Charles 89 76 cdy | Norfolk, Va. 88 75 cdy | St. Louis 83 63 .02 cdy | Tampa 91 75 cdy |
| Amarillo 84 57 cdy | Chicago 64 49 .01 cdy | Flint 67 48 cdy | Lansing 66 48 cdy | North Platte 58 53 .79 cdy | St. Petersburg 91 79 cdy | Toledo 67 54 .12 cdy |
| Anchorage 54 43 cdy | Cincinnati 76 63 .25 cdy | Fort Smith 85 70 rn | Las Vegas 88 70 cdy | Oklahoma City 87 70 cdy | St. Thomas 83 78 .05 rn | Topeka 78 62 .08 cdy |
| Asheville 81 62 .23 cdy | Cleveland 74 61 .12 cdy | Fort Wayne 70 58 .40 cdy | Lexington 77 65 .08 cdy | Omaha 73 59 rn | Salem, Ore. 71 57 .04 cdy | Tucson 92 61 .01 cdy |
| Atlanta 89 73 cdy | Colorado Springs 65 50 .69 cdy | Fresno 82 60 cdy | Lincoln 75 58 rn | Orlando 94 75 cdy | Salt Lake City 60 48 .23 cdy | Tulsa 86 69 rn |
| Atlantic City 71 66 1.01 rn | Columbia, S.C. 90 69 .52 cdy | Goodland 68 51 .73 cdy | Little Rock 87 71 .01 cdy | Paducah 88 65 .15 cdy | San Angelo 107 76 cdy | Tupelo 90 72 cdy |
| Austin 97 72 .66 cdy | Columbus, Ga. 91 73 cdy | Grand Junction 77 47 cdy | Los Angeles 75 73 cdy | Pendleton 78 58 .03 cdy | San Antonio 99 77 cdy | Waco 92 73 cdy |
| Baltimore 76 69 .22 rn | Columbus, Ohio 73 63 .63 cdy | Grand Rapids 65 52 .15 cdy | Louisville 82 66 1.00 cdy | Peoria 70 56 .01 cdy | San Diego 69 63 cdy | Washington, D.C. 81 71 .02 cdy |
| Baton Rouge 93 74 cdy | Concord, N.H. 64 52 .98 rn | Great Falls 70 46 cdy | Lubbock 95 65 clr | Philadelphia 70 67 .37 rn | San Francisco 69 57 cdy | W. Palm Beach 90 77 cdy |
| Billings 70 46 cdy | Corpus Christi 96 77 cdy | Green Bay 69 46 cdy | Macon 92 72 .01 cdy | Phoenix 93 72 cdy | San Jose 72 54 cdy | Wichita 81 67 .03 rn |
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Autos for Sale 141

Atsugi - 2008 Jeep Cherokee, American Driver, V6, 4X4, Power Everything, Sun Ruff, 2608 Miles. Registered till 2011. Can go to US and back to Japan with no extra cost. \$30,000.00. Call 08058695462.

Atsugi, Japan - 2003 Nissan Liberty. JCI and Road Tax good until April 2010. \$3,500 OR BEST OFFER. Call Joe 264-7197 or 080-6417-6591

New Sanno, Tokyo - 1995 BMW 318i, black, auto, 58,713 km, navigator, JCI till Dec 2010 for \$3,000. Neg. Call Sam at 090-1796-9392 or 03-3445-9660.

Yokosuka - 1995 Cadillac Eldorado, Great shape, very well maintained! Fully optioned! \$3,500. Call Greg at 090-9676-8201.

Yokota - 1994 Nissan Skyline, Two Door, JCI - Jan 2010, Road Tax Apr 2010. Asking \$750. If interested please call Mike at 763-354-3551

Autos for Sale 141

Yokota - 1996 Toyota RAV 4J, nice, clean, Silver 5 door SUV, runs great. Automatic transmission, sun roof, power lock-s/windows. Working AC and heater. CD/MP3 In-Dash Receiver. 2003 road tax paid. 2007 radiator/timing belt replacement. JCI May 2011; \$3,000 negotiable. Call 0909-594-3683

Yokota, Japan - 1993 Nissan March 4 Sale Good car, heat and A/C work very well. Easy to park, fun to drive. JCI good until Feb 2011, asking \$1000 firm. Will have oil changed prior to sale. New battery 2008. Available mid June E-mail to see

Yokota, Japan - 1993 Nissan Serena van for sale. This van has no radio, speedometer isn't working right and A/C is not working, but other than that. It is a good van runs great. Road tax Jun, so we will negotiate if we can drive till that time. JCI until May 2010 Asking \$1200 OBO Call 614-358-4889

Announcements 040



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Autos for Sale 141

Yokota, Japan - 1993 Silver Toyota Supra Automatic, non-turbo. Great shape and runs good! JCI good until Nov 2010. New tires, Shocks, and O2 Sensors. Great car make me an offer! 080-3588-0119 serious only.

Yokota, Japan - 1993 Toyota Camry Great car for sale. 4-door, color beige. No problems and runs great. JCI until Feb. 2010 asking \$1000 for more information call 1-323-338-7500 after 5pm

Yokota, Japan - 1993 Toyota Hilux Surf V-6, 4x4, fully loaded - power windows/locks. Stereo with CD/USB port for iPod/MP3 player, Roof rack, Rear storage cover & recent additions in the past year, new timing belt, tires, stereo, and battery very good clean reliable truck, hate to get rid of it, must sell to accommodate new baby. 1-971-244-0524 / 090-1269-4102

Yokota, Japan - 1995 Toyota EXIV! Separating soon and need to sell car! Green in color, A/C blows cold, Heat blows fire, Brand new battery Call to set up a time to check it out (080-3918-4100) JCI until May 2010 asking \$1200 OBO Call 080-3918-4100

Autos for Sale 141

Yokota, Japan - 1994 Honda Prelude, this prelude is very clean and mechanically sound. I have documentation on all maintenance performed on the vehicle since I have been the owner (2005). The last preventative maintenance was timing belt and water pump replacement. Runs great as the VTEC engine still produces plenty of power with low mileage for a 1994 model (78,600 miles). JCI until Aug. 2010 asking \$2250 OBO you must see and drive this one to believe. Call 9164734472 or email jim.peroy65@gmail.com for a test drive today!

Yokota, Japan - 1994 RVR XL sports edition/sunroof this little sports utility truck is a great commuter that's not only reliable but has multiple seat configurations to suit your hauling needs. It has a sun roof, great AC, CD, power windows/doors, a low 57k miles, directional compass, push guard, and a Nov 09 JCI. Give us a call to see up close! Asking \$1200 OBO call 323-338-7523 or email garciasinajapan@gmail.com

Autos for Sale 141

Yokota, Japan - 1994 Toyota Celica GT-4 Turbo Car has body damage on left side and the rear differential Bushings need to be replaced and the clutch is starting to slip, other than that the car is in good shape, I'm PCS'ing soon so I don't have time to fix it so I need to sell. Asking \$1400 OBO Call 240-845-5294 or email bluedevil913@hotmail.com

Yokota, Japan - 1995 Ford Mustang Convertible-Must sell PCS'ing! Very clean and reliable convertible with chrome rims and tires (less than 1yr old). Comes 1 year JCI until July 2010/road taxes paid; Left side steering wheel, a very good sound system and aftermarket speedometer panel. Asking \$3500 or OBO Must Sell! Please call 713-490-0690 or email lakajun2004@yahoo.com

Yokota, Japan - 1996 Toyota Premio Must Sell! Newly JCI'd 4door is in great condition. Tires recently replaced, COLD A/C, auto transmission, power windows. Asking \$1500 willing to negotiate on price! Call 080-3241-6736 or email rtype127@yahoo.com

Autos for Sale 141

Yokota, Japan - 1996 Toyota Century Black Chrome 20" Wheels w/ New Tires Leather Seats Power Front & Rear Seats Power Lumbar Front & Rear Seats Recline Power Rear Head Rest Heated Seats Front & Rear Massaging Seats Front & Rear Power Windows "All Even The Small Triangular One's In The Front And Rear" Cold A/C Front & Rear CD Player Road Tax Paid! JCI till Oct. 2009 must see, to appreciate! \$3500 OBO Call: 080-3362-9822 "Cell" or 1-216-619-8433 "House" Email: azntensai@hotmail.com

Yokota, Japan - 1998 Mitsubishi Chariot Great, Reliable Family Car, Good A/C, Burgundy. Seats 7 72K JCI until November 2009 Asking \$2500 OBO Call 080-3479-4570

Yokota, Japan - 1998 Nissan Avenir AWD Station Wagon for sale w/ sr20 engine. Clean inside and out has 56,800km low miles never had any problems with the car, just updated JCI for 2years everything is up to date. Every annual tune ups, has normal dings and scratches runs well new rear tires. Asking \$2,200 OBO located in Yokosuka if interested pls. call 241-2392.

Announcements 040



Autos for Sale 141

Yokota, Japan - 1996 Toyota Sprinter (Corolla) Nice, clean, 4 door sedan. 4 cylinders, runs great Automatic transmission, Power locks & windows, Working A/C and heater, Cassette and AM/FM radio 2009 road tax paid. Non-smoker Bought from Johnson's off base and passed JCI (with the exception of an expired flare) w/ 50K kilometers, and has 60K kilometers (37K miles). Never had any problems with it and it has passed the Base Garage inspection again (only needed to replace tires), so JCI is good until June 2011. Asking \$1400 OBO It is currently on the Lemon Lot # 30. Please call 443-283-0661 (Vona - e - off base) or unq.one@gmail.com; Ask for Greg on base: 313-347-1030.

Yokota, Japan - 2000 Honda Saber Good Conditioning Silver w/ gray interior, New battery JCI until 2011 asking \$3500 OBO email a m i momtisdier2@yahoo.com or call 26-6166

Yokota, Japan - \$2500 -080-2001 Nissan Presage, Silver Loaded! Must Sell 79k km (49k mi), 8 passenger mini-van. Great family car, VERY comfortable, Smooth ride, Well cared for, I-Pod/Aux ready, CD and MD player, GPS w/ DVD player/TV with remote, Power locks/windows, Strong A/C, Separate rear A/C, ETC on board, sensors, JCI until June 2010 Asking \$2500 OBO SAFE Family Car, PCS - Must sell immediately- make any offer - Call 263-3452 or 080-5866-5513 or email s lshardy1512@yahoo.com

Yokota, Japan - 95 Skyline GT-R, 2 Yrs JCI 29K miles. Original R33 GT-R, RB26DETT engine. Countless upgrades including fuel system, turbo, body kit and camshafts. Never raced. 3rd owner car well maintained. JCI until Jan. 2011 asking \$21,500 Call Dan for more details at 720-257-6847 or email. drnigolan@gmail.com

Autos for Sale 141

Yokota, Japan - 97 Nissan Cedric GT 97-v6 engine 77,000km pearl white very clean and good condition runs great no problem road tax paid and JCI expire Jan 2011 asking \$3500 call 090-4247-0384 or email empy55@yahoo.com

Yokota, Japan - PCS DEAL: '95 Skyline GTS w/ 10 Months JCI! - Priced to sell, quick, PCS'ing soon, available immediately - Great car! No mechanical issues, just some dings/scratches - JCI exp: April 2010 - 2009 Road Tax paid, good for year - Silver, AT, 4 door, CD player, spoiler - AC & Heat work good - 77K miles (124K km) - Reliable, Great Condition - First come first served Asking \$1100 - Check it out at the Lemon lot #17 I'm out of town 28 May - 12 June, you can email me if you just have questions. For showings, call Charles Murphy @ 850-254-9057 or email him: charlesdavid99@hotmail.com or charles.murphy@yokota.af.mil

Zama - 1996 Honda CRV, very clean body/bluegreen & runs smooth low mileage 74000km/45000miles well maintained no problems a/c works real good JCI until Jan 2011 road tax paid. \$3500. 09042470384 or 08033453841

Zama-97 Nissan Cedric GT- V6 engine 77000km pearl white very good and clean condition runs great no problem road tax paid and JCI exp Jan 2011 \$3500. 09042470384 ask for JP

Motorcycles 164

Yokota, Japan - Harley Davidson sportster 1200 XL 2003 XL 100th anniversary model with only 1,300 miles. JCI until 2010 asking \$7800 call 509-343-0732 or email jijasutton@gmail.com

Yokota, Japan - Yamato Virago 1100 JCI until Oct. 2009 V-Twin 1100cc, Runs Great, Shaft Drive, low maintenance, One helmet, Leather tank guard, Motorcycle cover, work manual, Great Fuel mileage, New battery, spark plugs, Oil changed \$2100.00 080-3522-3031 Cell or 1-830-522-100 Home

Baby Items 200

Atsugi - Brand new in packaging, 4 piece crib bedding set. Includes quilt, bumper, dust ruffle and crib sheet. The theme is "Aviator". The colors are different shades of blues, greens, yellows and whites and there are different bi-planes embroidered all around the quilt, bumper and dust ruffle. The dust ruffle is pleated, not ruffled like a little girl's would be. Originally \$150.00 selling for \$90.00. Please e-mail me if you would like pictures. Nicole, 264-7430

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Baby Items 200 Clothing 320 Furniture 510

Atsugi - Delta 5 in 1 crib bed. Light wood color. Casters, adjustable base and side bar which locks into place. \$55.00. Please call 264-7973 for more information.

Yokota, Japan - Beautiful Baby Girl Nursery Set bumper, quilt, diaper stacker, 2 decorative pillows, toy organizer, wall decorations, crib skirt, mobile. Paid over \$200 for everything asking \$75 for all E-mail for pictures for all Call 3145583462

Yokota, Japan - Changing table I am looking for a changing table for a cheap price. I'm having my first baby and we're a little tight on the budget. I found changing tables at the Amazon.com but they're a little expensive for me. Preferable price for me is around \$30-\$50 but we can negotiate on the price, depending on the quality and design of the table. Please email babyvalerie14@yahoo.com Thanks!

Bicycles 220

Yokota, Japan - 12 inch Girls Magna bicycle used girls bicycle in great condition. No training wheels. Asking \$20 Please call (323)338-7553 or email mdfisherman@hotmail.com

Yokota, Japan - Mongoose E-Pro 21 speed bicycle. Mongoose E-Pro mountain bike with quick release wheels \$80; Magna multi-speed mountain bike in good condition \$40 and female multi-speed bicycle \$40. Please call 6143584904 or email garyschwamm@hotmail.com

Clothing 320

Yokota, Japan - Small size woman outfit I have lot of small size (woman or miss) outfits. I bought them from Korea and I paid least \$75 per set. All of them are great condition and willing to sell for \$10 - \$20 per set. Feel free to come by and try them on. \$10-\$20 each set. Please contact 614-358-4889

Yokota, Japan - huge box filled w/ woman's clothing must sell immediately b 4 I leave. Only serious buyers call me. I have put together a huge box filled w/ really nice woman's clothing / shoes. They are all really nice. Some were never worn. Name brands: Eddie Bauer, LLBean, mossimo, Sonoma, ked, lees, Nike, and so much more. Sizes range from s, m, l, XL, maybe an xxi-10, 12, 14, 16. There are clothes for all seasons, work-out attire, work clothes, and much more. This huge, heavy box all for only \$60.00 there is a huge amount - this is a great way to save money. Either buy for yourself, or perhaps share w/ friends. (I paid \$60 for one pair of Capri's in this box, so this is truly a great deal). Angela 916-473-4488

Club/Parties 340

YOKOHAMA WORLD FRIENDS INTERNATIONAL PARTY, June 20, Sat, 6:30-9pm, Restaurant Forest Avenue, Biggest International Party in Yokohama. Meet 150 people, 20 kinds of free cocktails. Free Snacks, 3000 Yen http://www.worldfriends-party.com Call 080-2001-0512 party@govver.jp

Furniture 510

Yokota, Japan - Ancient Times Globe Liquor Cabinet (Got to see it!) This is a great little liquor cabinet well, sort of. It's a globe of ancient earth that opens up and stores your favorite decanter filled with your favorite beverage. It also has room for glasses. The bottom part of the cabinet has plenty of room for storing other bottles of whatever you like. Asking \$50 Please call Karin and Barry at 407-373-1304 if interested

Yokota, Japan - Great Condition Black Leather Sectional Sofa We are moving soon and have to downsize for our new home. The sofa is in excellent condition with little use - fairly new. If you are sincerely interested, please come by and look at it, asking \$450. Hopefully, I will have a picture up in the next few days, however. OBO Call 080-3727-3357

Yokota, Japan - Twin Size Simmons Beauty Rest Mattress Upgraded to a Queen Size for my teenager this one is taking up room on my staircase! Great, clean, comfortable mattress beats FMO mattresses by a long shot. Email or call for pictures if interested or come by and look! Email, or call 512-275-4895, 080-4602-7175 or 080-4603-0962 anytime! Asking \$100 Free Delivery

Furniture/Appliances 511

Yokosuka, Japan - Forget about filling kerosene tanks. Air heater sale - pack of 3 heaters only used for one winter before moving. 1 tall electric, 1 small electric, 1 large gas heater (non-kerosene/propane gas). Over \$450 value only for \$250 OBO. Please email samuel.soto@gmail.com or call 080-3411-1162

Yokota, Japan - White, like new, Japanese style microwave purchased 6 months ago for sale for \$35.00. Priced to move. Contact Keith at 09086689480 or email keithwms@hotmail.com for photo.

Household Items 560

Yokosuka, Japan - Don't pay the expensive prices outside base. Set of large curtains. Approximately 66 inches tall per curtain, set of 6 curtains light blue. \$130 OBO. Contact samuel.soto@gmail.com or call 080-3411-1162

Jobs Offered 630



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Household Items 560

Yokota, Japan - large bag filled w/ great kitchen items must sell now: I have put together a huge, heavy bag filled w/ different kitchen items that I never used, used just a few times, or have had for a long time, but kept in great shape. This bag includes brand names: le Cresset, OXO, Tupperware, pampered chef, and much, much more! This whole bag is priced to sell immediately. \$35 for all-amazing deal. So sorry, I do not have any pictures. Serious buyers please call me 916-473-4488. If I'm not home, please leave your name w/ good contact number so I may return your call. Thank you.

Yokota, Japan - really nice full/queen bedding set this set was taken excellent care of, very clean, was taken to the cleaners. I am willing to accept 2 payments, if need be - asking \$160. Must sell b 4 I leave. I think this set is really nice. It has the natural, neutral browns w/ an accent of soft blue. Chenille-trimmed trim will match about any decor. It will include: comforter, best fit sheet set, decorative pillows, bed skirt, extra soft blanket, set of 2 curtain panels, set of 2 curtain tie backs, valance, set of 2 shams, and much more. Curtains can be hung on curtain rod, or on sliders. Really nice set only serious buyers please call me 916-473-4488. Must sell immediately if not home, please leave message. Thank you.

Household Items 560

Yokosuka, Japan - Don't pay the expensive prices outside base. Set of large curtains. Approximately 66 inches tall per curtain, set of 6 curtains light blue. \$130 OBO. Contact samuel.soto@gmail.com or call 080-3411-1162

Home Electronics 570

Yokota, Japan - I have five XBOX 360 games that I would like to get rid of. Americas army, Nascar 08, full spectrum warrior ten hammers, Kane and Lynch dead men, and NCAA 08 football all go at this price. Asking \$80 Call 2408455298 or email wellisryan78@yahoo.com

Outdoor Living 775

Yokota, Japan - Play Station 2 Slim with lots of games Way too many games to list. Asking \$150 OBO for all No reasonable offer will be refused. Call 3145583462

Outdoor Living 775

Yokota, Japan - Back yard Fence for East side guard house for the end units, great condition-come and see it- 4529 E-you have to remove and transfer it. Asking \$700 Please call-407-373-1352 or email eacd@mac.com

Yokota, Japan - Fence & front/back awnings: 32 ft privacy fence (end N. area unit) - \$200 Front awning - \$150 Rear awning - \$200 All for \$500 Call 773-634-7734 or email knovak@armed-svc.com

Outdoor Living 775

Yokota, Japan - Worx GT Cordless Trimmer I have a like-new great cordless trimmer with 6 extra spools of line and a wall storage unit that holds the trimmer and battery! Only used twice. Sekkubg because we got orders here and living in tower. This is a trimmer and edger and best of all cordless! Asking \$75 Call Dan at 850-254-9049

Pets 820

Yokota - Free - Foster kittens in need of a loving and PERMANENT home. There are 5 males and one female, many colors to choose from. If interested please email Teresa at harris6302@yahoo.com or call 042-537-3449

Yokota, Japan - Parakeets w/Cage 2 parakeets (one yellow, one green), easy to handle, you can hand feed, comes with cage, stand, food, and toy many accessories. Asking \$45 OBO call 813-200-9379 or email aladdin002@yahoo.com

Zama/SHA - 3 year old male cat, shots up to date, on record at Camp Zama Vet, house trained & fixed. comes with carrier. Free to good home. Contact Tricia or CJ at 267-6329 / by email puertobaby87@yahoo.com

Religious Activities 871



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Toys 945

Atsugi - Radio flyer trike with sun canopy. Allows adult to steer but handle can be removed also. Bought for \$99.00, selling for \$40.00. Please call 264-7973 for more information.

Yokota, Japan - Girls Pink Disney scooter Great condition! Perfect for beginners Asking \$15 Please contact (323)338-7553 or email mdfisherman@hotmail.com

Sporting Goods 980

Atsugi - Red K2 5 Speed ski poles. Bought for \$50.00, selling for \$20.00. Please call 264-7973 for more information.

Atsugi - Rossi Axiom Skis with bindings. Size 150. Red and white. Originally bought for \$165.00, selling for \$70.00. Please call 264-7973 for more information.

Atsugi - Tecnica ski boots. Only used 3 times. Size 24 fits a size 6-8. Silver/gray in color. Originally bought for \$135.00 selling for \$50.00. Please call 264-7973 for more information.

Atsugi - Volant ski bag. Selling for \$25.00. Please call 264-7973 for more information.

Air Travel 1006

Yokota, Japan - Discount plane ticket to Korea? Is anyone can tell me there I can buy cheap discount plane ticket to Korea for round trip from Jun 18 or 19th ~Jun 29th or 30th? Any help appreciated! Thank you. Please contact Miya 614-358-4889

Miscellaneous 1040

Atsugi - Wasabi green Chicco carseat for sale! Brand new! Never used. \$40 cash. Simple brown medal dining set with four chairs. \$50 cash. E-mail mmpafmoa177@yahoo.com. I can e-mail pictures!

Yokota, Japan - coffee table, fans, shredder, vacuum, Kitchen items Round glass top coffee table \$40; 3-speed oscillating floor fan \$10; paper shredder \$10; Hoover vacuum \$20; Automatic coffee maker \$5. Asking \$40. Please call 6143584904

Miscellaneous 1040

Yokota, Japan - DVD Movies- \$3.50 each or all for \$35: First Daughter w/ Katie Holmes The Patriot, extended cut w/ Mel Gibson Barbie & the Nutcracker Ladder 49 w/ Joaquin Phoenix & John Travolta Fantastic 4-part 1 Fantastic 4-PART 2 Akeelah & the Bee Like Mike (kids basketball movie) Storm Cell (new release) Iron Man We Were Soldiers mmm CD'S-\$2.50 each or all for \$8.00: Another Cinderella Story Soundtrack Ladder 49 Soundtrack Now 25 Disney Channel Holiday Disney Jump-In Soundtrack Must go now. Call 916-473-4488

Yokota, Japan - Huge boxes w/ Scrapbooking/organizers I am willing to accept 2 payments, if need be. Must sell immediately b 4 I leave. I am asking \$260 for all-I'm. This is a huge set I have put together! I just put together 2-huge boxes filled w/ misc. scrapbooks, extra scrapbook pages, scrapbooking items (papers, stickers, cutters and much, much more), purple cool arts-n-crafts set w/ accessories, tons and tons of different storage items-great for scrap-booking, or use the storage containers for organizing different areas in your home, rolling organizers, and much, much more. I ask that only serious buyers contact me. If I am not home, please leave a message 916-473-4488.

Yokota, Japan - Yard Sale 14 & 21 June 2009 Rain or sun 09:00 Girls/Boys Clothing ages 2-6 inflatable pool w slide-almost new toys children's book arts and craft / scrap book items Japanese humidifier (the best in market) DVDs Candle Accessories from Yankee Candles furniture handmade Turkish jewelry costume jewelry kids/toddler winter jackets from LL Bean/Land's End and more. Great items Call-407-373-1352 or email eacd@mac.com



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Taught by Mark Monahan

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Taught by Elden Johnson

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(Comfy sofa not included)



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| | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
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|--|---|--|---|

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| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|--------|----------|---------|--------|--------|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|------|
| Atsugi | Sasebo | Yokosuka | Iwakuni | Foster | Hansen | Courtney | Kadena | Kinser | Misawa | Yokota | Zama |
|--------|--------|----------|---------|--------|--------|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|------|

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SCOREBOARD

Sports on AFN

Sunday

AFN-Sports, 2 a.m.—MLB: Minnesota at Chicago Cubs.

AFN-Atlantic, 3 a.m.—College baseball: World Series, Game 1, Cal State-Fullerton vs. Arkansas at Omaha, Neb.

AFN-Sports, 5 a.m.—MLB: N.Y. Mets at N.Y. Yankees.

AFN-Atlantic, 8 a.m.—MLB: Boston at Philadelphia.

AFN-Sports, 8 a.m.—College baseball: World Series, Game 2, Louisiana State vs. Virginia at Omaha, Neb.

AFN-Xtra, 9:30 a.m.—Auto racing: NASCAR Nationwide Meijer 300 at Sparta, Ky.

AFN-Atlantic, 11 a.m.—MLB: St. Diego at L.A. Angels (joined in progress).

AFN-Xtra, 2 p.m.—MLS: Chicago at D.C. (dld).

AFN-Xtra, 4 p.m.—MLB: Florida at Toronto (dld).

AFN-Sports, 5 p.m.—MLB: Chicago White Sox at Milwaukee (dld).

AFN-Xtra, 7 p.m.—MLB: St. Louis at Cleveland (dld).

Monday

AFN-Atlantic, 1 a.m.—Golf: PGA Stanford St. Jude Championship, third round, at Memphis, Tenn. (dld).

AFN-Xtra, 1 a.m.—MLS: Houston at Dallas (dld).

AFN-Sports, 3 a.m.—College baseball: World Series, Game 3, North Carolina vs. Arizona State at Omaha, Neb.

AFN-Xtra, 3 a.m.—Auto racing: NASCAR Sprint Cup Lifelock 400 at Brooklyn, Mich.

AFN-Atlantic, 4 a.m.—Golf: PGA Stanford St. Jude Championship, final round, at Memphis, Tenn.

AFN-Xtra, 8 a.m.—College baseball: World Series, Game 4, Texas vs. Southern Mississippi at Omaha, Neb.

AFN-Atlantic, 9 a.m.—MLB: St. Louis at Cleveland.

AFN-Sports, 9 a.m.—NBA playoffs: 2009 NBA Finals, L.A. Lakers at Orlando, Game 5.

AFN-Xtra, 11 a.m.—Drag racing: NHRA SuperNationals at Englishtown, N.J.

AFN-Sports, 4 p.m.—MLB: St. Louis at Cleveland (dld).

AFN-Sports, 8:30 p.m.—NBA playoffs: 2009 NBA Finals, L.A. Lakers at Orlando, Game 5 (dld).

All times are Japan and Korea Standard; (dld) indicates delayed broadcast. All listings are subject to change. Visit www.yafn.net for more information.

Soccer

MLS

Eastern Conference

| | W | L | T | Pts | GF | GA |
|-------------|---|---|---|-----|----|----|
| Chicago | 5 | 2 | 6 | 21 | 20 | 17 |
| D.C. | 4 | 2 | 7 | 19 | 20 | 17 |
| Columbus | 3 | 2 | 7 | 16 | 17 | 17 |
| Kansas City | 4 | 5 | 4 | 16 | 16 | 16 |
| New England | 4 | 3 | 4 | 16 | 14 | 17 |
| Toronto FC | 4 | 4 | 4 | 16 | 17 | 21 |
| New York | 2 | 9 | 3 | 9 | 12 | 22 |

Western Conference

| | W | L | T | Pts | GF | GA |
|----------------|---|---|---|-----|----|----|
| Chivas USA | 8 | 3 | 3 | 27 | 18 | 10 |
| Houston | 7 | 2 | 3 | 24 | 16 | 7 |
| Seattle | 4 | 3 | 5 | 17 | 15 | 10 |
| Colorado | 4 | 2 | 5 | 17 | 17 | 14 |
| Los Angeles | 2 | 1 | 9 | 15 | 15 | 14 |
| Real Salt Lake | 3 | 6 | 3 | 12 | 16 | 16 |
| FC Dallas | 2 | 6 | 4 | 10 | 14 | 19 |
| San Jose | 2 | 7 | 3 | 9 | 14 | 24 |

NOTE: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Wednesday's game

Houston 1, Chivas USA 0

Saturday's game

Chicago at D.C. United
New York at Toronto FC
Houston at FC Dallas
New England at Kansas City
Real Salt Lake at Los Angeles
San Jose at Seattle FC

Sunday's game

Chivas USA at Columbus

WPS

| | W | L | T | Pts | GF | GA |
|---------------|---|---|---|-----|----|----|
| Los Angeles | 7 | 1 | 3 | 24 | 15 | 4 |
| Washington | 3 | 3 | 3 | 12 | 16 | 18 |
| Boston | 3 | 3 | 2 | 11 | 10 | 11 |
| Saint Louis | 3 | 3 | 2 | 11 | 7 | 8 |
| FC Gold Pride | 3 | 5 | 2 | 11 | 10 | 14 |
| Chicago | 2 | 3 | 4 | 10 | 8 | 8 |
| Sky Blue FC | 2 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 6 | 9 |

NOTE: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Saturday's game

Chicago at Washington

Sunday's game

Saint Louis at Boston

Wednesday, June 17

FC Gold Pride at Boston

Chicago at Sky Blue FC

Saturday, June 20

Washington at Saint Louis

Sunday, June 21

FC Gold Pride at Los Angeles

Boston at Chicago

Golf

St. Jude Classic

Thursday
At TPC Southwind
Memphis, Tenn.
Purse: \$5.6 million
Yardage: 7,239; Par 70 (35-35)
First Round
a-denotes amateur

| | |
|---------------------|----------|
| Brian Gay | 31-33-64 |
| Jimmy Walker | 33-32-65 |
| Jose Maria Olazabal | 32-34-66 |
| Mathias Gronberg | 33-33-66 |
| Chris Stroud | 32-34-66 |
| Rich Beem | 33-33-66 |
| Graeme McDowell | 32-34-66 |
| Fredrik Jacobson | 34-33-67 |
| Jerry Kelly | 32-35-67 |
| Robert Allenby | 35-32-67 |
| David Tom | 34-33-67 |
| Vaughn Taylor | 31-36-67 |
| Richard Johnson | 33-34-67 |
| Woody Austin | 34-33-67 |
| Loren Roberts | 34-33-67 |
| Guy Boros | 33-34-67 |
| Ricky Barnes | 34-34-67 |
| Vance Veazey | 31-36-67 |
| Tag Ridings | 33-35-68 |
| Greg Chalmers | 33-35-68 |
| Phil Mickelson | 33-35-68 |
| Cameron Beckman | 35-33-68 |
| Camilo Villegas | 33-35-68 |
| Scott Verplank | 34-34-68 |
| Patrick Sheehan | 36-32-68 |
| Jeff Overton | 32-36-68 |
| Brad Adamonis | 32-36-68 |
| Notah Begay III | 32-36-68 |
| Derek Fathauer | 32-36-68 |
| Jarrod Lyle | 35-33-68 |
| Lee Janzen | 31-37-68 |
| Jason Dufner | 33-35-68 |
| Refet Goosen | 33-35-68 |
| Tim Herron | 34-34-68 |
| David Mathis | 33-35-68 |
| Kevin Stadler | 36-33-69 |
| Jason Boren | 33-36-69 |
| Harrison Frazar | 34-35-69 |
| Ben Crane | 35-34-69 |
| Robert Garrigus | 35-34-69 |
| Glen Day | 34-35-69 |
| Troy Matteson | 34-35-69 |
| Frank Lickliter II | 32-37-69 |
| Spencer Levin | 33-36-69 |
| a-Cameron Peck | 35-34-69 |
| J.P. Hayes | 32-37-69 |
| Dicky Pride | 33-36-69 |
| John Senden | 33-36-69 |
| Brett Quigley | 34-35-69 |
| Bob Weerley | 33-36-69 |
| Chris DiMarco | 30-39-69 |
| Bob Estes | 33-36-69 |
| Bryce Molder | 33-36-69 |
| Marc Leishman | 35-34-69 |
| Tyler Aldridge | 35-34-69 |
| Bob Tway | 32-38-70 |
| Scott McCarron | 35-35-70 |
| Michael Letzig | 34-36-70 |
| Bart Bryant | 36-34-70 |
| Marc Turnesa | 34-36-70 |
| Steve Allan | 34-36-70 |
| James Nitties | 34-36-70 |
| Webb Simpson | 33-37-70 |
| Martin Laird | 35-35-70 |
| Aaron Watkins | 33-37-70 |
| Matt Weibring | 35-35-70 |
| Bob Heintz | 34-36-70 |
| David Berganio, Jr. | 34-36-70 |
| Matthew Borchert | 35-35-70 |
| Jason Day | 33-37-70 |
| Nathan Green | 35-35-70 |
| Michael Bradley | 33-37-70 |
| Sergio Garcia | 35-35-70 |
| Tim Clark | 35-35-70 |
| Tom Pernice, Jr. | 32-38-70 |
| Jay Delsing | 36-34-70 |
| J.J. Henry | 34-36-70 |
| Omar Uresti | 35-35-70 |
| Roland Thatcher | 34-36-70 |
| David Gossett | 34-36-70 |
| James Oh | 35-35-70 |
| Paul Stankowski | 35-36-71 |
| Peter Lonard | 36-35-71 |
| Paul Dwyer | 34-37-71 |
| Richard S. Johnson | 31-40-71 |
| D.J. Trahan | 34-37-71 |
| Brian Bateman | 37-34-71 |
| Shaun Micheel | 36-35-71 |
| Heath Slocum | 33-38-71 |
| Charles Howell III | 35-36-71 |
| Michael Allen | 36-35-71 |
| Cliff Kresge | 36-35-71 |
| Tim Wilkinson | 34-37-71 |
| Bill Lunde | 37-34-71 |
| Billy Horschel | 34-37-71 |
| Jesper Parnevik | 36-36-72 |
| Padraig Harrington | 35-37-72 |
| Greg Kraft | 36-36-72 |
| Steve Lowery | 33-39-72 |
| Chris Riley | 36-36-72 |
| Kris Blanks | 34-38-72 |
| Troy Kelly | 37-35-72 |
| Brendon de Jonge | 34-38-72 |
| Gary Woodland | 36-36-72 |
| Nel Lancaster | 36-36-72 |
| Nick O'Hern | 34-38-72 |
| John Merrick | 38-34-72 |
| Mark Brooks | 35-37-72 |
| Paul Goydos | 34-38-72 |
| John Daly | 35-37-72 |
| Ronnie Black | 35-37-72 |
| Jason Gore | 35-37-72 |
| Doug Barron | 34-38-72 |
| Rodney Butcher | 37-35-72 |
| Ted Purdy | 39-34-73 |
| Dean Wilson | 35-38-73 |
| Eric Axley | 36-37-73 |
| Carlos Franco | 35-38-73 |
| Wil Collins | 34-39-73 |
| Kelvin Burgin | 36-37-73 |
| Chris Smith | 33-40-73 |
| Jay Willms | 37-36-73 |
| Andres Romero | 36-37-73 |
| Henrik Stenson | 38-35-73 |
| Carl Pettersson | 36-37-73 |
| Kirk Triplett | 35-38-73 |
| Robin Freeman | 36-37-73 |
| Tim Petrovic | 37-36-73 |
| Brendon Todd | 35-38-73 |
| Aron Price | 38-35-73 |
| Brian Vranesh | 36-37-73 |

LPGA Championship

Thursday
At Bulle Rock Golf Course
Havre de Grace, Md.
Purse: \$2 million
Yardage: 6,641; Par 72 (36-36)
First Round

| | |
|----------------------|----------|
| Nicole Castrale | 30-35-65 |
| Anna Nordqvist | 32-34-66 |
| Shanshan Feng | 33-34-67 |
| Paige Mackenzie | 33-35-68 |
| Ashleigh Simon | 34-34-68 |
| Amy Yang | 32-36-68 |
| Na Yeon Choi | 34-34-68 |
| Stacy Lewis | 32-36-68 |
| Maira Dunn | 33-35-68 |
| Aree Song | 34-34-68 |
| Jin Young Pak | 34-35-69 |
| Meaghan Francella | 34-35-69 |
| Katherine Hull | 33-36-69 |
| Sophie Gustafson | 35-34-69 |
| Kyeong Bae | 36-34-70 |
| Marisa Baena | 35-35-70 |
| Hee-Won Han | 35-35-70 |
| Kristy McPherson | 35-35-70 |
| Michelle Wie | 37-33-70 |
| Inbee Park | 35-35-70 |
| Lindsey Wright | 35-35-70 |
| Angela Stanford | 35-35-70 |
| Kris Tschetter | 38-32-70 |
| Karin Sjodin | 33-37-70 |
| Katie Futcher | 35-36-71 |
| Na Ri Kim | 37-34-71 |
| Christina Kim | 37-34-71 |
| Sandra Gal | 35-36-71 |
| Maria Hjorth | 36-35-71 |
| Marcy Hart | 36-35-71 |
| Becky Morgan | 33-38-71 |
| M.J. Hur | 33-37-71 |
| Chella Choo | 36-35-71 |
| Irene Cho | 36-36-72 |
| A. Hanna-Williams | 34-38-72 |
| Taylor Leon | 35-37-72 |
| J. Gallagher-Smith | 37-35-72 |
| Young Kim | 36-36-72 |
| Karrie Webb | 34-38-72 |
| In-Kyung Kim | 35-37-72 |
| Carri Wood | 39-33-72 |
| Mika Miyazato | 36-36-72 |
| Michele Redman | 36-36-72 |
| Brittany Lang | 38-34-72 |
| Natalie Gulbis | 35-37-72 |
| Candice Kung | 37-35-72 |
| Si Pak | 35-37-72 |
| Loana Ochoa | 37-35-72 |
| Jill McGill | 5-37-72 |
| Wendy Doolan | 35-37-72 |
| Kris Tamulis | 36-36-72 |
| Hye Jung Choi | 36-37-73 |
| Beth Bader | 38-35-73 |
| Eunjung Yi | 35-38-73 |
| Janie Hullett | 36-37-73 |
| Johanna Mayrka | 37-36-73 |
| Charlotte Moudry | 38-37-73 |
| Alena Sharp | 37-36-73 |
| Jiyai Shin | 36-37-73 |
| Sun Young Yoo | 37-36-73 |
| Ji Young Oh | 36-37-73 |
| Soo-Yun Kang | 37-36-73 |
| Stacy Prammanasudh | 39-34-73 |
| Brandie Burton | 36-37-73 |
| Min Hyun Kim | 38-35-73 |
| Yani Tseng | 36-37-73 |
| Julie Inkster | 38-35-73 |
| Song-Hee Kim | 35-38-73 |
| Haeji Kang | 37-36-73 |
| Erica Blasberg | 36-37-73 |
| Birdie Kim | 34-39-73 |
| Minea Blomqvist | 37-36-73 |
| Si Hyun Ahn | 33-40-73 |
| Jeanne Cho-Hunicke | 35-38-73 |
| Allison Fouch | 36-38-74 |
| Se Ginter | 37-37-74 |
| Joo Mi Kim | 37-37-74 |
| Jehee Lee | 35-39-74 |
| Diana D'Alessio | 37-37-74 |
| Eun-Hee Ji | 37-37-74 |
| Seon Hwa Lee | 37-37-74 |
| Li Mi Chung | 37-37-74 |
| Wendy Ward | 37-37-74 |
| Helen Alfredsson | 34-40-74 |
| Paula Creamer | 38-34-74 |
| Jimin Kang | 39-35-74 |
| Amy Hung | 37-37-74 |
| Carin Koch | 37-37-74 |
| Meena Lee | 35-39-74 |
| Vicky Hurst | 37-37-74 |
| Suzann Pettersen | 39-35-74 |
| Morgan Pressel | 36-38-74 |
| Aria Monke | 36-38-74 |
| Sherry Adonian-Smith | 35-39-74 |
| Anna Grezben | 35-39-74 |
| Mindy Kim | 38-36-74 |
| Audra Burks | 38-36-74 |
| Heather Bowie Young | 37-38-75 |
| Sung Ah Yim | 38-37-75 |
| Stephanie Louden | 38-37-75 |
| Karine Icher | 38-37-75 |
| Silvia Cavallieri | 40-35-75 |
| Lorie Kane | 37-38-75 |
| Brittany Lincicome | 39-36-75 |
| Laura Diaz | 37-38-75 |
| Meg Mallon | 37-38-75 |
| Sarah Lee | 39-36-75 |
| Hee Young Park | 37-38-75 |
| Jane Park | 37-38-75 |
| Jee Young Lee | 37-38-75 |
| Dorothy Delasin | 36-39-75 |
| Ava Dahloff | 36-39-75 |
| Reiley Rankin | 37-38-75 |
| Sarah Jane Smith | 40-35-75 |
| Julista Granada | 37-38-75 |
| Lisa Strom | 38-38-76 |
| Carolina Llano | 40-36-76 |
| Mikaela Parmill | 39-37-76 |
| Lu Lu | 39-37-76 |
| Pat Hurst | 39-37-76 |
| Rachel Hetherington | 39-37-76 |
| Momoko Ueda | 39-37-76 |
| Cristie Kerr | 36-40-76 |
| Sarah Kemp | 35-41-76 |
| Jennifer Rosales | 38-38-76 |
| Meredith Duncan | 38-38-76 |
| Michelle Ellis | 39-37-76 |

College baseball

College World Series

At Rosenblatt Stadium
Omaha, Neb.
Double Elimination
Saturday, June 13

Game 1 — Arkansas (39-22) vs. Cal State Fullerton (47-14)
Game 2 — Virginia (48-13-1) vs. LSU (51-16)

Sunday, June 14
Game 3 — Arizona State (49-12) vs. North Carolina (47-16)

Game 4 — Southern Mississippi (40-24) vs. Texas (46-14-1)

Monday, June 15
Game 5 — Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser

Game 6 — Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner

Tuesday, June 16
Game 7 — Game 3 loser vs. Game 4 loser

Game 8 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 winner

Wednesday, June 17
Game 9 — Game 5 winner vs. Game 6 loser

Thursday, June 18
Game 10 — Game 7 winner vs. Game 8 loser

Friday, June 19
Game 11 — Game 6 winner vs. Game 9 winner

Game 12 — Game 8 winner vs. Game 10 winner

Saturday, June 20
Game 13 — Game

Golf roundup

Mickelson gets back to work and under par

By DOUG FERGUSON
The Associated Press

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Returning to work for the first time since disclosing last month that his wife has breast cancer, Phil Mickelson made a solid, 2-under 68 to wind up four shots behind leader Brian Gay in the St. Jude Classic on Thursday.

He wore a pink ribbon stitched into the side of his white cap and at times looked fatigued, but he wasted no time firing up fans with birdies on the opening two holes. Then came a sliced tee shot into the water and a nearly four-putt green. He birdied two of the last three holes. A typical round for one of golf's unpredictable stars.

Jose Maria Olazabal, a two-time Masters champion recently elected to the World Golf Hall of Fame, was the opening day's surprise. Coping with arthritis pain, the Spaniard shot a 66 to finish in a group that included Rich Beem and Graeme McDowell.

Under heavy clouds that brought brief showers midway through his round, Mickelson was easy to spot because of about 750 fans following him — one man dressed all in pink.

John Daly's comeback was for vastly different reasons, and the result not quite the same. He played on the PGA Tour for the first time since a six-month suspension for off-course activities that brought unwanted publicity. Daly opened with eight consecutive pars and a birdie, but his putter failed him miserably. He followed with three successive bogeys for a 72.

"Probably the worst I've putted in five years," Daly said, wearing a neon-green shirt that matched his argyle pants of green and



LANCE MURPHEY/AP

Phil Mickelson, right, returning to the PGA Tour for the first time since his wife was diagnosed with breast cancer, jokes with Padraig Harrington before teeing off on the 10th hole in the St. Jude Classic in Memphis, Tenn., on Thursday. Mickelson shot a 2-under 68 and was four shots off the lead.

yellow.

He offered little on how it felt to be playing before fans near his hometown in Arkansas. The Daly faithful followed him around the TPC Southwind and were treated to a round with few highlights, good or bad.

Gay had narrowly missed qualifying for the first two majors, although he has one chance left. Having won at Hilton Head last month, he could get into the U.S. Open with a victory this weekend. He led by one shot over Jimmy Walker.

Mickelson openly shared his emotions and fears before the tournament. He was more guarded after his round Thursday, sticking mainly to his golf and the

tropical vacation after the U.S. Open, a week before Amy has surgery and begins treatment.

"It wasn't a great round, but it was a good start," Mickelson said. "It was fun to play a little bit."

He was particularly pleased with his group — three-time major winner Padraig Harrington and Cameron Beckman. They chatted between shots, although his talk with Harrington before the round might have been the most meaningful.

Harrington won his first two PGA Tour events in 2005 as his father battled cancer. He missed the British Open that summer when his father died.

"I know when my dad had cancer, the easiest time was on the

golf course because you don't have to answer any questions," Harrington said. "You don't have to explain yourself on the golf course. You've got to remember — we're quite proficient at dealing with that little white golf ball, not quite as good about explaining our emotions."

Mickelson could not have scripted a better start to his round, opening with an approach to 5 feet for birdie and holing a 25-foot birdie putt on the next hole, the par-3 11th.

Asked if he thought it was a typical round, he replied, "Once we got going."

"I felt a little rusty, but I made a couple of birdies early, and that made it more relaxed," he said.

Olazabal played four rounds at the Memorial, failed to make it through 36-hole U.S. Open qualifying on Monday and is hurting from injuries that have limited his play in recent years. He wasn't expecting a 66, or his name atop the leaderboard.

"But that's the game of golf," he said. "I played pretty solid today and managed to score well. I have to say that the greens were a little soft after the rain, and I think that helped a little bit."

Jerry Kelly was among those at 67, an important start because a victory would be his second this year and get him to the U.S. Open at Bethpage Black on Long Island.

U.S. Open: Defending champion Tiger Woods will play the first two rounds of the U.S. Open with Padraig Harrington and Angel Cabrera, giving fans at Bethpage Black on Long Island a chance to see the reigning champions of all four majors.

Harrington won the British Open and the PGA Championship last year, and Cabrera won the Masters in April.

Mickelson, who decided to play the U.S. Open only last week as his wife battles cancer, will be in the group with Ernie Els and Retief Goosen. Lefty beat Els by one shot for his first major victory at the 2004 Masters, then lost to Goosen in 2004 at Shinnecock Hills the last time the U.S. Open was held on Long Island.

The heartache group: Kenny Perry, who has lost two majors in a playoff; Rocco Mediate, runner-up at the U.S. Open last year after a 19-hole playoff with Woods; and Tom Lehman, who played in the final pairing at the U.S. Open four consecutive years in the 1990s without winning.

LPGA Championship

With 65 and first-round lead, Castrale shows positive signs

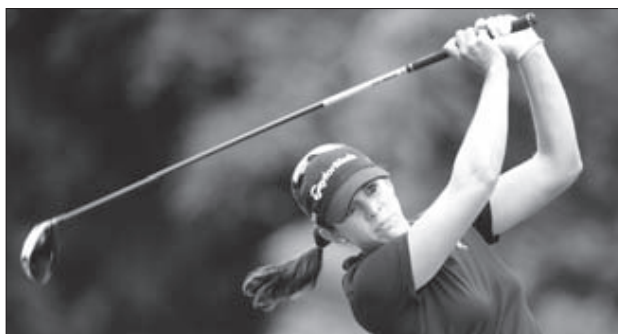
By DAVID GINSBURG
The Associated Press

HAVRE DE GRACE, Md. — Nicole Castrale won't deny what the numbers clearly indicate: Her golf game has suffered since 2007, when she won her only tournament on the LPGA Tour and took home more than \$850,000.

Fortunately for Castrale, she has a job she enjoys. It helps that she gets to work with her husband, Craig, her caddie the past six years. So, after Castrale shot a 7-under 65 Thursday for the first-round lead in the LPGA Championship, she wasn't about to claim she had righted her game. Instead, Castrale merely held out hope that her efforts to improve were paying off.

"It's tough when you struggle," she said. "I may have regressed a little bit, but I've learned to grind the last year and a half, because I haven't had it. It's golf. It's a game. It isn't perfect. So all I can do is do my best."

Her best was better than anyone else after 18 holes in the LPGA Tour's second major tournament of the season. Castrale birdied six of the first nine holes to take a



Nicole Castrale, who has struggled of late, tees off on the ninth hole during the first round of the LPGA Championship on Thursday. She shot a 7-under 65 for a one-shot lead.

ROB CARR/AP

one-shot lead over rookie Anna Nordqvist.

Shanshan Feng of China was in third at 67. Feng made her only bogey on No. 13, and moved up the leaderboard with birdies on 15 and 16.

Castrale's 6-under 30 was the lowest on the front nine at the Bulle Rock Course since the tournament moved from DuPont Country Club in 2005. Taking advantage of a wet course that rendered the greens slow and true, Castrale played virtually flaw-

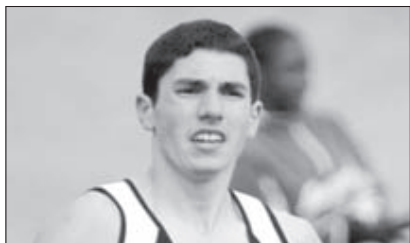
less golf until a drive into the rough on 18 led to her only bogey.

The last time Castrale had a record-setting round at Bulle Rock was in 2006, when she opened with a career-low 64. No one in tournament history shot that before at Bulle Rock, and no one has done it since. But Castrale followed with a 75, then stepped in a drain after leaving the fitness trailer that night, spraining her left ankle and ending up tied for 34th. She rebound-

ed to have a fine 2007 season, but finished in the top-10 six times in 21 tournaments last year. "Last year, if that's my bad year, then I'll take it," said Castrale, who won \$540,644 in 2008. This year, Castrale failed to do better than 15th in her first nine outings — twice missing the cut.

Nordqvist, who turned 22 on Wednesday, is playing in her fourth professional tournament. That's not the only reason her 66 was so surprising. She also had to wake up at 4:30 a.m. for a 7:15 tee time. Showing no signs of nervousness in her first major, Nordqvist started with a par, then birdied Nos. 2 and 5 before a shot into the bunker on 6 produced her lone bogey. Birdies putts of 3, 5 and 18 feet followed, enabling the Swede to make the turn at 4 under. Nordqvist said she "lost momentum" at that point because of slow play ahead of her, but long birdie putts on 14 and 17 and a solid par on 18 completed her best round as a pro.

Michelle Wie shot a 70, Lorena Ochoa had a 72, defending champion Yani Tseng was at 73, and Brittany Lincicome, seeking to win a second consecutive major, had five bogeys and a double bogey en route to a 75.



PAT JORGENSEN, LEFT, AND LIZZIE DOVER/Special to Stars and Stripes

Zama American middle-distance runner Andrew Quallio, left, and Osan American all-sports star Celine Baldevia were selected Pacific high school athletes of the year for 2008-09.

Zama, Osan seniors are cream of crop

By DAVE ORNAUER
Stars and Stripes

Rare were the heights that Andrew Quallio and Celine Baldevia achieved during the 2008-09 school year. And because of those accomplishments, they have been selected Pacific high school athletes of the year.

Baldevia, a senior, served as what coaches called the "backbone" of Osan American's program in her drive to do what had been done only once before — be part of teams that won Far East Girls Class A tournament titles in volleyball, basketball and soccer in the same school year.

Quallio, a senior, won his second consecutive Far East 3.1-mile cross country race and became the first athlete in Zama American history to be chosen All-American, placing ninth in USA Track and Field's national championship in Virginia in December.

Baldevia — all of 5 feet 3 inches of her — had 180 spike kills in 539 attempts, served 65 aces, had 195 set assists (102 at Class A) and 180 defensive digs. She even had 21 blocks in the Far East tournament despite her lack of imposing height. Osan went 25-6 and beat Morrison Christian Academy for the Class A title in a two-match final.

In basketball, Baldevia averaged 9.5 points, 5.5 rebounds and 3.9 steals for the Cougars (12-2 Korean-American Interscholastic Activities Conference, 21-5 overall), who edged Robert D. Edgren 41-37 in the Class A final.

And in soccer, she overcame a midseason injury to backstop the Cougars to a 23-5-3 record and their first Class A title since 2006.

"She doesn't brag, she isn't loud or cocky, she's just a hard-working competitor," Daegu American basketball coach Michelle Chandler said. "I hold her as a fine example of what our female athletes should aspire to be: hard-working, humble and champions."

Humble is a word many also use to describe Quallio, who is headed for the Air Force Academy.

He broke the 22-year-old Tama Hills Recreation Center course record by 24 seconds (14 minutes, 29.9 seconds), had the fastest Pacific time this season (15:25 at Iwakuni) and won the Far East title in 16:20 at Misawa Air Base. His national-meet time of 16:05 was 10 seconds behind the winner.

In track, he won all but his last race of the season, the 1,500 in the Kanto Invitational. He rewrote every school middle-distance record and holds the Kanto league 3,000 record (8:58.5).

"He's easily one of the best kids I've ever taught," Zama athletic director Ed Fogell said. "Very dedicated student who works his tail off. He is popular among his peers, plays in the jazz band and runs, runs and runs some more. Very respectful as well."

The rest of the Stars and Stripes Pacific 2008-09 awards:

Coach of the year: Terry Chumley led Kubasaki wrestling to a surprise Far East tour-

namment individual freestyle team title and then guided the girls varsity soccer team to the Far East Class AA tournament title game, in which they suffered a penalty-kick shootout loss to Zama.

Team of the year: Going 25-0 without dropping a set, the Seoul Foreign girls volleyball team completed the finest season in school history with KAIAC regular-season and tournament and Asia-Pacific Activities Conference tournament titles. Great way for coach J.P. Rader to exit before he takes the Asbury College (Ky.) team helm.

Programs of the year: Osan also captured the first boys Class A wrestling tournament team banner and returned to the Class A football title game for the third time in four years. American School In Japan won its second Class AA volleyball title in four years, swept Kanto league and invitational track boys and girls team titles and won Kanto and Asia-Pacific Invitational team titles in tennis and cross country.

Most improved team: Guam High's boys basketball team went a school-best 11-2 in the regular season, won the Gadao Division, took seventh in the Class AA tournament, put a school-record four players on Guam's All-Island team and took third in the league playoffs.

Most improved program: Seoul American won Class AA football and cross country titles, shared the tennis banner with Kadena, scored top-three Class AA basketball tournament finishes and won DODDS-Korea titles in baseball and softball. Seoul Track Club also finished second in the boys and combined standings in the Mike Petty Meet in April on Okinawa.

Game/play of the year: Seoul American's 22-21 Far East Class AA football title game victory over Kadena came down to the last play, with Seoul's Trinadai Stansel stuffing Panthers fullback Jordan Ray on a 2-point conversion attempt. (An illegal-motion penalty was called on the play and refused by Seoul, but it was still a clutch play).

Quote/rivalry of the year: "Things work out best for the people who make the best of the way things work out," Zama American's Elias Labrador said after he beat Kadena's Harry Bloom 2-1 in the 148-pound "Beast of the Far East" tournament final at Yokosuka Naval Base. Out of that came the year's best rivalry. Bloom came back to edge Labrador in a disputed 2-1 decision for his second consecutive Far East gold medal. They split their four bouts this season, each nail-biting close.

Rivalry of the year, Part II: Zion Christian Academy's Sarah Wilson rode high in April, dominating the Mike Petty Memorial meet with four golds, including the 400 meet record. She added three golds in the Okinawa Activities Council district finals. Then ASI's Gwen Thornton shot her down in May, setting 400 and 1,600 relay marks and taking four golds in the Kanto Invitational, a week after winning four league golds.

Spring athlete of the quarter nominees

x-Leo Kobayashi, senior, soccer, Christian Academy in Japan.
x-Aubrey Ashliman, junior, soccer, Zama American, Japan.
x-Jonathan Green, senior, soccer, E.J. King, Japan.
x-Arnold Chae, senior, soccer, Yongsan International-Seoul.
x-Karla Stroud, senior, soccer, Matthew C. Perry, Japan.
x-Sean Durham, senior, baseball, St. Mary's International, Japan.
x-Shannon Scott, senior, softball, Kadena, Okinawa.
Gwen Thornton, senior, track and field, American School In Japan.
Rebekah Wyche, senior, softball, Daegu American, South Korea.
Linda Martinez, senior, soccer, Daegu American, South Korea.
Ben Beaulieu, senior, soccer, Daegu American.
Brandon Massie, senior, soccer, Robert D. Edgren, Japan.
D'Andre Weaver, junior, track and field, Guam High.
Susan Smith, sophomore, track and field, Guam High.
Megan Speck, senior, soccer, Guam High.
Daniel "Tex" Tompkins, senior, baseball, Kadena, Okinawa.
Mary Schweers, junior, softball, Kadena, Okinawa.
Kaleb Robinson, sophomore, baseball, Kubasaki, Okinawa.
Donavan Brown, senior, track and field, Nile C. Kinnick, Japan.

Eddy Davis, senior, baseball, Nile C. Kinnick, Japan.
Derek Becker, senior, soccer, Osan American, South Korea.
Bria Pressley, freshman, soccer, Osan American, South Korea.
Jasmine Pressley, sophomore, soccer, Osan American, South Korea.
Charles Mills, senior, soccer, Seoul American.
Liz Gleaves, sophomore, soccer, Seoul American.
Colton Heckerl, sophomore, baseball, Seoul American.
Greg Morris, sophomore, baseball, Seoul American.
Ivan Montanez, senior, baseball, Seoul American.
Ernst Dencher, senior, soccer, Seoul Foreign.
Andrew Park, senior, soccer, Seoul Foreign.
John Beckius, senior, soccer, Seoul Foreign.
Patrick Tubalado, senior, soccer, Yokota, Japan.
Tony Presnell, senior, soccer, Yokota, Japan.
David Kim, junior, soccer, Yongsan International-Seoul.
Mallarie Ashliman, sophomore, soccer, Zama American, Japan.
Spenser Clark, senior, soccer, Zama American, Japan.
Sarah Wilson, junior, track and field, Zion Christian Academy, Okinawa.
x-automatically nominated for having won a most valuable player award during a DODDS-Pacific-sponsored Far East tournament.

Pacific athlete of the year nominees

x-Andrew Quallio, senior, cross country, track and field, Zama American, Japan.
x-Nadine Mulvany, senior, cross country, soccer, Nile C. Kinnick, Japan.
x-Kelly Langley, sophomore, cross country, track and field, St. Mary's International, Japan.
x-Jennifer Stolle, senior, cross country, track and field, American School In Japan.
x-Kyle Sprow, junior, tennis, Kadena, Okinawa.
x-Elissa Mason, junior, tennis, Kadena, Okinawa.
x-Rina Fujiwara, senior, tennis, Senri International, Japan.
x-Celine Baldevia, senior, girls volleyball, basketball, soccer, Osan American, South Korea.
x-Brittney Rader, senior, girls volleyball, basketball, soccer, Seoul Foreign.
x-Max Negami, sophomore, tennis, American School In Japan.
x-Scott Wood, senior, swimming, wrestling, golf, Kubasaki, Okinawa.
x-Stephen Hovater, senior, basketball, track and field, Morrison Christian Academy, Taiwan.
x-Toni Taniguchi, junior, basketball, St. Mary's International, Japan.
x-Janel Long, senior, basketball, Faith Academy, Philippines.
x-Ashley Hawkins, junior, cheerleading, basketball, soccer, Robert D. Edgren, Japan.
x-Leo Kobayashi, senior, tennis, soccer, Christian Academy in Japan.
x-Aubrey Ashliman, junior, basketball, soccer, Zama American, Japan.
x-Jonathan Green, senior, soccer, E.J. King, Japan.
x-Arnold Chae, senior, soccer, Yongsan International-Seoul.
x-Karla Stroud, senior, soccer, Matthew C. Perry, Japan.

x-Sean Durham, senior, basketball, baseball, St. Mary's International, Japan.
x-Shannon Scott, senior, wrestling, softball, Kadena, Okinawa.
x-Gwen Thornton, senior, girls volleyball, basketball, track and field, American School In Japan.
Rebekah Wyche, senior, girls volleyball, basketball, softball, Daegu American, South Korea.
Ben Beaulieu, senior, boys volleyball, soccer, Daegu American.
D'Andre Weaver, junior, football, basketball, track and field, Guam High.
Susan Smith, sophomore, cross country, track and field, Guam High.
Stanley Schrock, junior, boys volleyball, football, basketball, soccer, Kadena, Okinawa.
Brandon Harris, senior, football, basketball, track and field, Kadena, Okinawa.
Britney Wise, senior, basketball, soccer, Kadena, Okinawa.
Aja Walker, senior, girls volleyball, basketball, Kadena, Okinawa.
Mary Niemeyer, junior, girls volleyball, basketball, soccer, Nile C. Kinnick, Japan.
Liz Gleaves, sophomore, girls volleyball, basketball, soccer, Seoul American.
Joe McLean, senior, football, basketball, baseball, Seoul American.
Tony Presnell, senior, football, wrestling, soccer, Yokota, Japan.

x-automatically nominated for having won a most valuable player award during a DODDS-Pacific-sponsored Far East tournament or Pacific invitational meet.

Previous athletes of the year

1987-Kevin Maxwell, senior, Zama American School, Japan. Football, basketball, baseball, track and field. University of Georgia, Athens, Ga.
1988-Carol Williams, junior, American School In Japan. Volleyball, soccer, basketball. University of California-Davis, Davis, Calif.
1989-Elbert Bailey, senior, Kubasaki High School, Okinawa. Football, wrestling. Columbia University, New York. Commissioned into U.S. Army.
1990-James Carson, senior, Yokota High School, Japan. Football, basketball, baseball. University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla.
1991-Robert Weeks, senior, Kadena High School, Okinawa. Football, basketball, track and field. University of Connecticut, Storrs, Conn.
1992-Pyo, junior, Seoul International School, Seongnam, South Korea. Cross country, soccer, basketball. Wesleyan College, Mass.; Wheaton College, Ill.
1992-Katherine Greig, sophomore, American School In Japan. Volleyball, swimming, basketball. Stanford University, Palo Alto, Calif.
1993-James Smith, senior, Kubasaki High School, Okinawa. Football, wrestling. Willamette College, Salem, Ore.
1994-Melissa Calkins, senior, Trinity Christian School, Guam. Volleyball, track and field, basketball. Christian Heritage, El Cajon, Calif.; University of Guam, Mangilao, Guam.
1995-Melissa Meno, senior, Kubasaki High School, Okinawa. Volleyball, soccer, basketball. University of Arizona, Tucson, Ariz.
1996-David Page, sophomore, Seoul American High School, Okinawa. Football, basketball, baseball. University of California, Berkeley, Calif.; Hinds Junior College, Jackson, Miss.; Southern Methodist University, Dallas. Works for Ernst & Young, Han Ripley, senior, Seoul American High School, Okinawa. Football, basketball, baseball. Daytona Beach Community College, Daytona Beach, Fla.; University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla.
1997, 1998-Julie Stauffer, sophomore-junior, Faith Academy, Manila. Basketball, soccer, baseball, softball. Cedarville College, Ohio.
1999-Josh Whitney, senior, Kadena High School, Okinawa. Cross country, basketball, soccer. Quinnipiac College, Hamden, Conn.
Yuki Basso, senior, Seisen International School, Tokyo. Volleyball, basketball. Boston College, Newton, Mass.
2000-Justin McCloskey, senior, Matthew C. Perry High School, Japan. Football, basketball, baseball. Lewis & Clark College, Portland, Ore.
Olivia Anglade, sophomore, Seoul American

High School. Tennis, basketball, soccer, softball.
2001-Ray Lamb, senior, Seoul American High School. Football, wrestling. New Mexico Military Academy, Roswell, N.M. Kirsten Nelson, senior, Christian Academy in Japan. Volleyball, basketball, track and field. Houghton College, Houghton, N.Y. Teaches and coaches at Taejon Christian International School in South Korea.
2002-Mike Chamberlain, junior, Yokota High School, Japan. Football, wrestling, soccer. Carroll College, Montana. Olivia Anglade, senior, Seoul American High School. Tennis, basketball, soccer. Stanford University, Palo Alto, Calif. Lori Shields, senior, Osan American High School, South Korea. Volleyball, basketball, soccer. Florida Tech, Melbourne, Fla. Commissioned into U.S. Army.
2003-Mike Chamberlain, senior, Yokota High School, Japan. Football, wrestling, soccer. Carroll College, Helena, Montana. Brianna Carroll, sophomore, Pusan American School, South Korea. Cross country, basketball, soccer. Pepperdine University, Malibu, Calif. Theresa Gitten, junior, Kadena High School, Okinawa. Basketball, soccer, softball. Missouri Valley College, Marshall, Mo.
2004-Scott Tunis, junior, Seoul American High School. Football, wrestling, soccer. New Mexico Military Academy, Roswell, N.M. Katie LaGrave, Kadena High School, Okinawa. Volleyball, basketball, soccer. Augsburg College, Minneapolis.
2005-Adam Krievs, senior, Nile C. Kinnick and Matthew C. Perry, Japan. Football, wrestling, soccer. San Bernardino Valley Community College, San Bernardino, Calif. Dianne Abel, junior, Kadena, Okinawa. Cross country, basketball, soccer. Winthrop University, Rock Hill, S.C.; University of West Florida, Pensacola, Fla.
2006-Carlos Albaladejo, junior, Osan American High School, South Korea. Football, wrestling, soccer. Lynnette Grant, senior, Taegu American School, South Korea. Volleyball, basketball, softball. Jacksonville State University, Alabama.
2007-David Heistmann, junior, E.J. King High School, Japan. Cross country, wrestling, soccer. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md. Zori Drew, senior, Kadena High School, Okinawa. Volleyball, basketball, softball. BYU, Hawaii.
2008-Andrew Quallio, junior, Zama American, Japan. Cross country, track and field. Monica Hayes, senior, Kadena, Okinawa. Basketball, softball. University of Dubuque (Iowa).

Sports briefs

Falcons cut suspended quarterback Vick

The Associated Press

ATLANTA — The Michael Vick era in Atlanta is officially over.

Falcons general manager Thomas Dimitroff said the team relinquished its contractual rights to Vick on Friday.

"Michael remains suspended by the NFL," Dimitroff said. "However, in the event NFL commissioner Roger Goodell decides to reinstate Michael, we feel his best opportunity to re-engage his football career would be at another club."

The move was no surprise. Owner Arthur Blank has said Vick would not return to the Falcons.

"Everybody always knew that Mike wouldn't be playing with the Falcons," Vick's agent, Joel Segal, said. "He's really just taking it one day at a time."

The NFL had no comment.

Falcons spokesman Reggie Roberts said the team's release of Vick opens the door for other NFL teams to talk with the quarterback. Roberts said Vick can sign with another team even before Goodell decides on clearing the way for Vick to play.

Goodell has not committed to reinstating Vick after the quarterback completes his 23-month sentence on July 20 for running a dogfighting ring. Vick is making \$10 an hour as a construction worker while he serves the final two months of his sentence on home confinement in Hampton, Va. Vick was released from federal prison in Kansas on May 20.

Vick was the Falcons No. 1 draft pick in 2001. He played six seasons with the team, but the Falcons moved on by making quarterback Matt Ryan their No. 1 pick last year. Ryan started every game as a rookie and led the Falcons to the playoffs.

Vick was the figurehead for the Falcons and, as a dual-threat quarterback, was one of the NFL's most dynamic stars before his sudden downfall.

McNabb gets \$24.5M deal

PHILADELPHIA — Donovan McNabb and the Philadelphia Eagles agreed Thursday to restructure the final two years of his contract. McNabb's new deal is worth \$24.5 million over the next two seasons, a person famil-

iar with the negotiations told The Associated Press.

A "significant" portion of McNabb's base salary for 2010 also is guaranteed, according to the source, who spoke on condition of anonymity because terms of the deal were not released. While signing bonuses are guaranteed in NFL contracts, base salaries usually are not.

The five-time Pro Bowl quarterback was due to make \$19.2 million over the next two seasons. The team announced the restructured deal Thursday night.

McNabb led the Eagles to the NFC championship game against Arizona after two road victories in the playoffs. It was Philadelphia's fifth appearance in the conference title game under McNabb. The Eagles are 1-4 in those games and lost to New England in their only trip to the Super Bowl in 2005.

McNabb, who is entering his 11th season with the Eagles, is the franchise's career leader in several categories, including passing yards (29,320) and touchdown passes (194). He also has led the team to the playoffs seven times, best in team history.

Judge delays Taylor hearing

MIAMI — A judge on Thursday delayed a decision on whether a suspect in the slaying of Washington Redskins star defensive back Sean Taylor can withdraw his guilty plea.

A hearing was to be held Friday on the request by Venjah Hunte, 21. But after a private conference with lawyers, Miami-Dade Circuit Judge Dennis Murphy postponed the issue for another week.

Hunte's plea deal calls for a 29-year prison sentence. He could get life if he goes to trial with four fellow defendants and is found guilty.

Taylor, 24, died after being shot during an attempted robbery at his home in November 2007. He was an All-Pro safety with the Redskins after starring in college at Miami.

Jones seeks to play for U.S.

FRANKFURT — Schalke midfielder Jermaine Jones has told the governing body of German soccer that he wants to play for the U.S. national team.

Jones has dual German and

U.S. citizenship. According to new FIFA regulations, Jones can switch national teams since he never played in a tournament game for Germany, the Deutscher Fussball Bund said Friday.

The midfielder, 27, did not make Germany's European Championship team last year.

Jones is the son of an American soldier and grew up in Frankfurt, where he played for Eintracht before moving to Schalke in 2007.

Formula One adds U.S. team

PARIS — Formula One will feature three new teams in the 2010 season, including one from the United States.

The sport's governing body FIA announced a lineup of 13 teams Friday, including new entrants Campos Grand Prix of Spain, Britain-based Manor and American team US F1.

US F1 is based in Charlotte, N.C., and led by team principal Ken Anderson, a former technical director for F1 teams Ligier and Onyx. The team said it hopes to show "that American technology, American drivers and the American competitive spirit can compete and win on the F1 global stage."

GM making NASCAR cuts

BROOKLYN, Mich. — General Motors is planning to cut back on its support of NASCAR teams in all of the sanctioning body's professional series.

Chevrolet spokesman Terry Rhadigan says GM, which is re-

organizing through bankruptcy, is discussing what he described as incremental cutbacks in support. He said cuts would be made soon and that the discussions are "indeed NASCAR-wide."

Rhadigan would not say if one series would be affected more than others, nor would he detail the size of the cuts or how much GM spends on NASCAR.

The automaker, through its Chevrolet brand, provides cash and other support to teams, including engines and parts.

ESPN gets Rose Bowl in 2011

BRISTOL, Conn. — The Rose Bowl will be televised on ESPN beginning in January 2011, giving the network broadcast rights to all Bowl Championship Series games.

ESPN announced the agreement with the Rose Bowl on Friday.

The network had said it would air the Fiesta, Orange, Sugar and BCS national championship game as part of a multiyear agreement that also begins in January 2011.

The 2010 Rose Bowl and the 2010 BCS national title game from Pasadena, Calif., will remain on ABC. The Rose Bowl has had a separate media rights agreement from other BCS bowls.

The 2011 season will mark the first time all BCS bowls will be on cable television.

NCAA told to release letter

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — The NCAA must release copies of its

response to Florida State's appeal of penalties stemming from academic violations, Florida Attorney General Bill McCollum said Friday.

In a letter addressed to NCAA president Myles Brand, the attorney general said failure to release the contents of the letter or provide access to them could result in a \$1,000 fine, a year in jail, or both.

NCAA spokeswoman Stacey Osburn had said that private correspondence between the NCAA and its member institutions has long been established to maintain the integrity of investigations.

Faldo knighted by queen

LONDON — Nick Faldo, whose 47 international golf victories include three Masters and three British Opens, was knighted by Queen Elizabeth for his service to the sport.

Faldo was the only athlete to be given one of Britain's highest honors on the monarch's birthday list this year.

Since the end of his playing days, Faldo, 51, has been designing golf courses around the world and has worked as a TV commentator.

He captained the European Ryder Cup team that lost to the United States at Valhalla, Ky., last year.

He received a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) in 1987.

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Vehicle pass

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Major League Baseball statistics

Through June 11

American League

| TEAM BATTING | | | | | | |
|--------------|------|-----|-----|----|-----|------|
| | AB | R | H | HR | RBI | Avg |
| Toronto | 2187 | 312 | 612 | 66 | 298 | .280 |
| New York | 2096 | 334 | 576 | 95 | 318 | .275 |
| Los Angeles | 1986 | 270 | 544 | 44 | 257 | .274 |
| Tampa Bay | 2141 | 350 | 583 | 80 | 331 | .272 |
| Minnesota | 2111 | 304 | 575 | 66 | 286 | .272 |
| Boston | 2054 | 317 | 556 | 71 | 303 | .271 |
| Cleveland | 2139 | 320 | 569 | 65 | 296 | .266 |
| Texas | 2030 | 300 | 540 | 89 | 291 | .265 |
| Baltimore | 2052 | 267 | 539 | 64 | 254 | .263 |
| Detroit | 2006 | 295 | 519 | 62 | 280 | .259 |
| Seattle | 2037 | 226 | 525 | 54 | 218 | .258 |
| Kansas City | 1977 | 238 | 492 | 51 | 226 | .249 |
| Chicago | 2014 | 250 | 502 | 64 | 242 | .249 |
| Oakland | 2016 | 261 | 479 | 48 | 250 | .238 |

INDIVIDUAL BATTING

Based on 192 plate appearances

| | AB | R | H | HR | RBI | Avg |
|----------------|-----|----|----|----|-----|------|
| ISuzuki Sea | 228 | 25 | 82 | 5 | 17 | .360 |
| Youkilis Bos | 160 | 35 | 56 | 10 | 37 | .350 |
| Morneau Min | 235 | 47 | 80 | 16 | 54 | .340 |
| VMartinez Cle | 236 | 39 | 80 | 16 | 42 | .339 |
| Adjones Bal | 216 | 42 | 71 | 11 | 37 | .329 |
| McCabrera Det | 213 | 36 | 70 | 11 | 39 | .329 |
| Crawford TB | 249 | 45 | 81 | 5 | 29 | .325 |
| MYoung Tex | 233 | 33 | 74 | 8 | 22 | .318 |
| Branyan Sea | 189 | 35 | 60 | 14 | 29 | .317 |
| Figgins LAA | 225 | 41 | 71 | 1 | 18 | .316 |
| ACabrera Cle | 206 | 38 | 65 | 2 | 27 | .316 |
| Lind Tor | 235 | 27 | 74 | 12 | 45 | .315 |
| TorHunter LAA | 201 | 40 | 63 | 12 | 44 | .313 |
| Rolen Tor | 189 | 30 | 59 | 3 | 19 | .312 |
| AHill Tor | 264 | 36 | 82 | 14 | 43 | .311 |
| Kubel Min | 190 | 30 | 59 | 9 | 35 | .311 |
| Callaspo KC | 201 | 25 | 62 | 2 | 30 | .308 |
| Longoria TB | 215 | 41 | 66 | 14 | 56 | .307 |
| Pedroia Bos | 229 | 46 | 70 | 2 | 24 | .306 |
| JRivera LAA | 186 | 17 | 57 | 6 | 27 | .306 |
| Scutaro Tor | 246 | 47 | 75 | 5 | 29 | .305 |
| Ellsbury Bos | 235 | 31 | 71 | 1 | 16 | .302 |
| Jeter NYY | 242 | 35 | 72 | 8 | 26 | .298 |
| Abreu LAA | 195 | 25 | 58 | 2 | 28 | .297 |
| Cano NYY | 246 | 39 | 72 | 9 | 35 | .293 |
| Lowell Bos | 233 | 28 | 68 | 10 | 40 | .292 |
| Span Min | 223 | 35 | 65 | 4 | 24 | .291 |
| Konerko CWS | 213 | 27 | 62 | 8 | 39 | .291 |
| Byrd Tex | 189 | 24 | 55 | 4 | 27 | .291 |
| Teixeira NYY | 218 | 42 | 63 | 19 | 52 | .289 |
| Choo Cle | 215 | 36 | 62 | 8 | 35 | .288 |
| NCruz Tex | 212 | 37 | 61 | 17 | 42 | .288 |
| Markakis Bal | 237 | 38 | 68 | 7 | 40 | .287 |
| BRoberts Bal | 241 | 45 | 69 | 6 | 23 | .286 |
| Damon NYY | 227 | 48 | 65 | 13 | 35 | .286 |
| Butler KC | 210 | 28 | 59 | 4 | 26 | .281 |
| Ordonez Det | 201 | 27 | 56 | 2 | 21 | .279 |
| Bay Bos | 213 | 42 | 59 | 15 | 57 | .277 |
| Teahen KC | 206 | 27 | 57 | 7 | 30 | .277 |
| Dye CWS | 203 | 38 | 56 | 15 | 39 | .276 |
| KSuzuki Oak | 203 | 25 | 56 | 2 | 21 | .276 |
| DeRosa Cle | 230 | 40 | 63 | 10 | 42 | .274 |
| Holliday Oak | 215 | 31 | 59 | 8 | 37 | .274 |
| Inge Det | 205 | 36 | 56 | 13 | 40 | .273 |
| Granderson Det | 240 | 39 | 64 | 14 | 37 | .267 |
| JDrew Bos | 176 | 35 | 47 | 8 | 30 | .267 |
| Kinsler Tex | 238 | 42 | 63 | 15 | 44 | .265 |
| Cuddyer Min | 210 | 33 | 55 | 9 | 33 | .262 |
| Rios Tor | 253 | 28 | 66 | 7 | 27 | .261 |
| KMorales LAA | 207 | 24 | 54 | 8 | 32 | .261 |
| FGuzman Sea | 176 | 23 | 42 | 3 | 19 | .261 |
| HMatsui NYY | 177 | 19 | 46 | 8 | 23 | .260 |
| Beltre Sea | 240 | 30 | 62 | 4 | 26 | .258 |
| AHuff Bal | 221 | 25 | 57 | 8 | 39 | .258 |
| Thome CWS | 163 | 28 | 42 | 12 | 39 | .258 |
| JHPeralta Cle | 202 | 19 | 52 | 2 | 26 | .257 |
| Swisher NYY | 184 | 39 | 47 | 12 | 35 | .255 |
| ALRamos CWS | 182 | 12 | 44 | 2 | 22 | .254 |
| Bialock Tex | 178 | 29 | 45 | 12 | 29 | .253 |
| VWells Tor | 248 | 38 | 62 | 5 | 28 | .250 |
| Polanco Det | 221 | 24 | 55 | 1 | 24 | .249 |
| BRancisco Cle | 197 | 28 | 49 | 5 | 22 | .249 |
| RSweeney Oak | 191 | 20 | 47 | 2 | 15 | .246 |
| Betancourt Sea | 182 | 12 | 44 | 1 | 19 | .242 |
| JoLopez Sea | 224 | 24 | 54 | 8 | 36 | .241 |
| DeJesus KC | 209 | 23 | 50 | 3 | 22 | .239 |
| Jacobs KC | 183 | 20 | 43 | 10 | 26 | .235 |
| OCabrera Oak | 239 | 29 | 56 | 2 | 20 | .234 |
| Fields CWS | 188 | 19 | 44 | 3 | 21 | .234 |
| Cust Oak | 199 | 34 | 46 | 10 | 33 | .231 |
| KDKorbin LAA | 185 | 24 | 42 | 3 | 22 | .231 |
| Crisp KC | 178 | 30 | 41 | 3 | 14 | .230 |
| CPena TB | 214 | 44 | 49 | 19 | 47 | .229 |
| Sizemore Cle | 206 | 29 | 46 | 9 | 31 | .223 |
| Gambi Oak | 189 | 31 | 41 | 8 | 31 | .217 |
| UBuption TB | 222 | 37 | 47 | 3 | 15 | .212 |
| CDavis Tex | 198 | 18 | 41 | 2 | 20 | .205 |
| DOrtiz Bos | 207 | 20 | 42 | 4 | 25 | .203 |

TEAM PITCHING

| | ERA | H | ER | BB | SO | Sh | SV |
|-------------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|
| Seattle | 3.68 | 521 | 221 | 213 | 405 | 4 | 18 |
| Detroit | 3.99 | 498 | 235 | 221 | 416 | 7 | 12 |
| Toronto | 4.12 | 514 | 254 | 180 | 331 | 5 | 11 |
| Boston | 4.19 | 541 | 248 | 209 | 456 | 1 | 18 |
| Chicago | 4.23 | 543 | 253 | 212 | 424 | 4 | 14 |
| Kansas City | 4.25 | 521 | 244 | 204 | 412 | 5 | 9 |
| Oakland | 4.29 | 549 | 268 | 208 | 388 | 3 | 13 |
| Tampa Bay | 4.32 | 545 | 262 | 221 | 419 | 2 | 16 |
| Texas | 4.57 | 539 | 266 | 205 | 308 | 4 | 19 |
| Minnesota | 4.59 | 565 | 279 | 156 | 389 | 3 | 13 |
| Los Angeles | 4.83 | 550 | 274 | 197 | 358 | 4 | 17 |
| New York | 4.85 | 535 | 290 | 236 | 445 | 2 | 15 |
| Baltimore | 4.19 | 584 | 303 | 195 | 361 | 2 | 13 |
| Cleveland | 5.23 | 585 | 317 | 248 | 399 | 2 | 12 |

INDIVIDUAL PITCHING

Based on 6 decisions

| | IP | H | BB | SO | W | L | ERA |
|----------------|-----|-----|----|-----|----|---|------|
| Greinke KC | 94 | 77 | 16 | 97 | 8 | 2 | 1.72 |
| RRamirez Bos | 29 | 17 | 9 | 16 | 4 | 2 | 1.86 |
| Linebrink CWS | 22 | 23 | 8 | 19 | 2 | 4 | 2.08 |
| EJJackson Det | 68 | 68 | 23 | 65 | 6 | 3 | 2.24 |
| JerWeaver LAA | 82 | 61 | 24 | 69 | 6 | 2 | 2.31 |
| Bedard Sea | 66 | 62 | 22 | 67 | 6 | 2 | 2.47 |
| Halladay Tor | 100 | 90 | 12 | 88 | 10 | 5 | 2.52 |
| Millwood Tex | 93 | 85 | 27 | 49 | 6 | 4 | 2.72 |
| Verlander Det | 86 | 70 | 25 | 106 | 7 | 3 | 2.02 |
| FHernandez Sea | 85 | 84 | 25 | 84 | 6 | 3 | 3.06 |
| Washburn Sea | 70 | 66 | 18 | 50 | 3 | 4 | 3.07 |
| Cliese Cle | 88 | 106 | 18 | 63 | 3 | 6 | 3.17 |
| CWilson Tex | 25 | 23 | 12 | 11 | 2 | 4 | 3.24 |
| Buehrle CWS | 81 | 73 | 19 | 50 | 6 | 2 | 3.24 |
| Blackburn Min | 84 | 86 | 24 | 37 | 5 | 3 | 3.31 |
| Braden Oak | 81 | 86 | 22 | 54 | 5 | 3 | 3.33 |
| JShields TB | 88 | 95 | 20 | 63 | 5 | 3 | 3.36 |
| Garza TB | 79 | 59 | 30 | 68 | 4 | 4 | 3.55 |
| Sabatina NYY | 93 | 76 | 29 | 67 | 5 | 4 | 3.58 |
| Meche KC | 75 | 73 | 30 | 61 | 5 | 3 | 3.70 |
| RRomero Tor | 44 | 46 | 14 | 32 | 3 | 3 | 3.71 |
| Beckett Bos | 76 | 67 | 32 | 76 | 7 | 2 | 3.77 |
| Saunders LAA | 78 | 76 | 24 | 42 | 6 | 4 | 3.94 |
| Porcello Det | 61 | 59 | 20 | 36 | 6 | 4 | 3.98 |
| Richmond Tor | 59 | 55 | 20 | 46 | 4 | 3 | 3.99 |
| Feldman Tex | 61 | 52 | 22 | 33 | 5 | 1 | 4.01 |



WILFREDO LEE/AP

St. Louis Cardinals slugger Albert Pujols is having another typical season, with 19 home runs and 53 RBIs to go with a .317 batting average. He's the only player in major league history with 30 homers, 100 RBIs and a .300 average in each season in which he's played. This is his ninth season.

| | | | | | | | |
|------------------|----|----|----|----|---|---|------|
| Niemann TB | 63 | 65 | 27 | 42 | 5 | 4 | 4.12 |
| Talbot Tor | 74 | 55 | 34 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 4.12 |
| Cahill Oak | 73 | 74 | 28 | 34 | 3 | 5 | 4.17 |
| Slowey Min | 73 | 95 | 9 | 51 | 8 | 2 | 4.21 |
| Pettitte NYY | 75 | 82 | 32 | 47 | 6 | 4 | 4.22 |
| BColon CWS | 55 | 63 | 20 | 36 | 3 | 6 | 4.23 |
| Uehara Bal | 56 | 57 | 12 | 41 | 2 | 4 | 4.37 |
| Wakefield Bos | 76 | 75 | 34 | 43 | 8 | 3 | 4.50 |
| Bannister KCRW | 56 | 62 | 22 | 36 | 4 | 3 | 4.69 |
| Danks CWS | 67 | 69 | 26 | 61 | 4 | 5 | 4.81 |
| ABurnett NYY | 72 | 72 | 37 | 66 | 4 | 3 | 4.89 |
| McCarthy Tex | 64 | 68 | 23 | 57 | 5 | 4 | 4.90 |
| GFloyd CWS | 74 | 83 | 31 | 71 | 4 | 5 | 4.94 |
| Lester Bos | 74 | 79 | 26 | 85 | 5 | 5 | 5.09 |
| Davies KC | 72 | 70 | 34 | 51 | 2 | 6 | 5.13 |
| Galarraga Det | 68 | 72 | 31 | 44 | 3 | 6 | 5.19 |
| Padilla Tex | 60 | 61 | 28 | 31 | 4 | 3 | 5.22 |
| BAnderson Oak | 60 | 73 | 16 | 36 | 3 | 5 | 5.25 |
| Penny Bos | 66 | 83 | 20 | 44 | 5 | 5 | 5.32 |
| Carraway Cle | 77 | 88 | 28 | 57 | 6 | 5 | 5.45 |
| Harrison Tex | 58 | 68 | 16 | 29 | 4 | 4 | 5.48 |
| Guthrie Bal | 73 | 85 | 21 | 47 | 4 | 6 | 5.52 |
| SBaker Min | 68 | 67 | 12 | 57 | 4 | 6 | 5.59 |
| Jakubauskas Sea | 51 | 52 | 17 | 22 | 4 | 5 | 5.82 |
| Liriano Min | 71 | 75 | 34 | 62 | 2 | 7 | 5.99 |
| Contreras CWS | 38 | 41 | 17 | 20 | 1 | 6 | 5.45 |
| Nonsonnastine TB | 63 | 84 | 18 | 33 | 3 | 6 | 7.00 |
| Jonson KC | 63 | 58 | 17 | 26 | 1 | 5 | 7.27 |
| Carmona Cle | 61 | 68 | 18 | 34 | 1 | 6 | 7.30 |
| Kazmir TB | 46 | 60 | 29 | 35 | 4 | 7 | 7.69 |
| Faton Bal | 41 | 56 | 19 | 28 | 2 | 8 | 5.56 |

National League

| TEAM BATTING | | | | | | |
|---------------|------|-----|-----|----|-----|------|
| | AB | R | H | HR | RBI | Avg |
| Los Angeles | 2103 | 312 | 580 | 44 | 295 | .280 |
| New York | 1968 | 270 | 548 | 37 | 253 | .278 |
| Houston | 2012 | 245 | 545 | 46 | 233 | .271 |
| Pittsburgh | 2041 | 262 | 536 | 34 | 253 | .263 |
| Philadelphia | 2017 | 318 | 530 | 85 | 305 | .263 |
| Washington | 2032 | 267 | 529 | 63 | 257 | .260 |
| San Francisco | 1998 | 233 | 518 | 31 | 216 | .259 |
| St. Louis | 2023 | 273 | 526 | 62 | 261 | .257 |
| Atlanta | 2013 | 250 | 511 | 62 | 256 | .256 |
| Colorado | 2014 | 300 | 511 | 70 | 290 | .254 |
| Florida | 2142 | 283 | 535 | 60 | 270 | .250 |
| Chicago | 1949 | 246 | 483 | 64 | 234 | .248 |
| Milwaukee | 1986 | 276 | 491 | 69 | 271 | .247 |
| Cincinnati | 2016 | 256 | 498 | 61 | 245 | .247 |
| Arizona | 2107 | 259 | 510 | 58 | 248 | .242 |
| San Diego | 1982 | 234 | 467 | 58 | 226 | .236 |

INDIVIDUAL BATTING

Based on 192 plate appearances

| | AB | R | H | HR | RBI | Avg |
|-------------|-----|----|----|----|-----|------|
| DWright NYM | 213 | 38 | 77 | 4 | 35 | .362 |
| Tejada Hou | 240 | 33 | 84 | 6 | 33 | .350 |
| Beltran NYM | 205 | 34 | 70 | 8 | 38 | .341 |
| Hawpe Col | 184 | 32 | 61 | 9 | 45 | .332 |

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STARS AND STRIPES

OFFER EXPIRES 7/7/09





New York Yankees slugger Mark Teixeira shows his frustration after lining out to end Thursday night's 4-3 loss to the Boston Red Sox.

CHARLES KRUPA/AP

8+0 = Frustration

Yankees foiled again as Red Sox rally at Fenway

By JIMMY GOLEN
The Associated Press

BOSTON — The Boston Red Sox are 8-0 against the New York Yankees, and they'll have most of the summer to lord it over their AL East rivals.

J.D. Drew hit an RBI single to spark an eighth-inning rally, then scored the go-ahead run on Mike Lowell's fly ball to help the Red Sox beat New York 4-3 on Thursday night. Boston has swept New York in all three series this season, and the teams don't meet again until Aug. 6.

"I know the fans probably love it," Red Sox manager Terry Francona said. "Good for them; they should. We just want to win every game."

It's the first time the Red Sox have won the first eight over their archrivals since they helped christen the brand-new Fenway Park by winning the first 14 matchups against the Highlanders in 1912. Counting the last time they met last season, Boston has won nine straight.

"We definitely didn't envision this when we started off the three-game road trip. We came in here expecting to win some

games," Yankees outfielder Johnny Damon said. "We've got over 100 games to go. Our day will come."

With the latest sweep, Boston went from a game behind to two games up in the division. The Red Sox left afterwards for Philadelphia, an NL city. That means designated hitter David Ortiz will have to sit or play first base — just as he seemed to be snapping out of a season-long slump.

"We're playing good right now," said Ortiz, who hit his third homer in five games. "When things are happening, you've got to keep them rolling."

Takashi Saito (1-0) earned his first AL victory with four outs of scoreless relief, and Jonathan Papelbon pitched the ninth for his 16th save.

Brad Penny pitched six shut-out innings before the Yankees scored three times off Manny Delcarmen in the seventh for a 3-1 lead. After cruising through seven innings, CC Sabathia (5-4) ran into trouble in the eighth when Nick Green singled and Dustin Pedroia drew a 10-pitch walk.

"CC pitched like we don't want him to pitch," Francona said ad-

miringly. "Then all of the sudden Greenie gets a hit and Pedey has an extended at-bat and things happen like we've seen happen before. It was electric. You could feel it. I'd like to sit up here and say it never means more than it means, but it's hard not to get excited."

Drew singled to make it 3-2 and chase Sabathia after a season-high 123 pitches. Alfredo Aceves gave up a single to Kevin Youkilis to load the bases, and then another base hit to Jason Bay that tied it. Lowell hit a shallow fly ball to left-center, and Drew scored as Melky Cabrera's throw bounced into the infield behind him.

"It definitely stings a lot," Sabathia said. "We lost a ball game we probably should have won. But the bottom line is we have a lot of games left."

Ortiz hit his fourth homer of the season in the second inning to make it 1-0, and it stayed that way until Penny left the game and Cabrera singled to lead off the seventh. Francisco Cervelli doubled to tie it, Damon walked with one out and Alex Rodriguez hit a two-run double to give the Yankees their first lead of the series.

AL roundup

Up in the sky! It's a bird, it's a ... game-winner

The Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Coco Crisp thought he still had a chance to get to Shin-Soo Choo's bouncing base hit. A bird beat him to it.

The ball flattened a low-flying gull in the 10th inning and rolled past Kansas City's center fielder, scoring Mark DeRosa from second base to give the Cleveland Indians a 4-3 victory over the Royals on Thursday night.

"Crazy things happen in this game," Crisp said after Choo's line single over the second-base bag clipped one of hundreds of birds that buzz the ballpark. "It was hit so sharply, I felt like I had a chance," Crisp said. "You never know what the heck is going to happen."

Incidentally, the stunned bird flopped around for a few seconds before flying off.

"I didn't see it, but I'll take it," Choo said.

Two years ago, a swarm of bugs rattled New York Yankees pitcher Joba Chamberlain during the AL division series, helping the Indians rally.

The bugs are common near the lakefront in late spring, and for the past few weeks flocks of gulls have been feeding off them.

"I guess the bugs brought the birds with that whole nature thing," Crisp said. "I'd rather have the birds, to be honest."

DeRosa opened the inning with a single off Kyle Farnsworth (1-4) — his third single along with two walks in five times up.

Victor Martinez then walked and Choo lined a 1-0 pitch over second and off the gull. The collision changed the ball's path just enough to redirect it past Crisp all the way to the wall.

Matt Herges (2-0) worked the top of the 10th, allowing one hit. The right-hander has not allowed

a run in his past 10²/₃ innings.

Royals starter Zach Greinke left with a 3-1 lead and one out in the eighth. Reliever John Bale got Choo to hit a potential double-play grounder, but the Royals started tossing the ball around wildly.

With DeRosa on second and Martinez on first, Choo's bouncer was fielded by first baseman Billy Butler, whose throw to shortstop Tony Pena forced Martinez. But Pena's return throw was in the dirt and got past Butler for an error that allowed DeRosa to score with a head-first slide. Meanwhile, second baseman Alberto Callaspo retrieved the ball and threw wide of home, sending Choo to second.

Jhonny Peralta followed with a high drive off the left-field wall that just missed being a homer, but easily scored Choo.

Athletics 4, Twins 3: Rajai Davis slapped an RBI single in

the ninth and the host Athletics rallied from a late three-run deficit. Adam Kennedy hit a tying two-run homer in the three-run eighth as the A's finally solved Minnesota starter Nick Blackburn to split the four-game series.

Brad Ziegler (1-1) pitched two scoreless innings in relief of Trevor Cahill, who gave up an early three-run homer to Joe Crede.

Rangers 1, Blue Jays: At Arlington, Texas, Kevin Millwood threw 7²/₃ excellent innings and the Rangers gained just their fourth 1-0 victory in 16 seasons since moving into Rangers Ballpark. Texas got its run when Marlon Byrd hit a sacrifice fly off Ricky Romero (3-3).

Millwood (6-4) gave up five hits with one strikeout and hit a batter, ending Blue Jays' winning streak at three.

White Sox 4, Tigers 3: At Chicago, Scott Podsednik hit an RBI

single off Joel Zumaya with the bases loaded in the bottom of the ninth inning after Detroit's Curtis Granderson hit a tying, two-run homer off closer Bobby Jenks (1-2) with two outs in the top half.

Rays 11, Angels 1: At St. Petersburg, Fla., Carlos Pena hit a three-run homer and drove in four runs, and Dioner Navarro homered and had three RBIs for Tampa Bay. Evan Longoria and Carl Crawford hit solo homers as the Rays moved to .500 (31-31).

Ervin Santana (1-3) allowed six runs and eight hits over 4²/₃ innings.

Mariners 6, Orioles 3: Russell Branan hit his team-leading 14th homer and drove in three runs for visiting Seattle. Adrian Beltre went 3-for-4 with an RBI and a run, and Ichiro Suzuki doubled, tripled and scored twice to help the Mariners win their fourth straight series.

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Phils' Ibanez tough when it counts

By JAY COHEN

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Charlie Manuel sounded like a proud father after the Philadelphia Phillies' latest dramatic victory.

"My team always comes back," the manager said. "That's what's good about them."

Raul Ibanez hit a three-run homer with two outs in the 10th inning and Philadelphia beat the New York Mets 6-3 on Thursday night, handing its NL East rival another difficult loss.

The Phillies rallied to win for the second straight game and 20th time this season, tying the New York Yankees for most in the majors. The defending World Series champions also wrapped up a 7-3 road trip, improving to a major league-best 23-9 away from home.

"It's a tough ballclub, a bunch of mentally strong guys in here, all 25," said Ibanez, who signed a free-agent deal with Philadelphia in the offseason. "I've been on teams before where a lot of the guys were tough and mentally tough. This team, everybody is mentally tough and never gives anything away."

Shane Victorino sparked the big 10th inning with a one-out single off Bobby Parnell (2-2). After Chase Utley walked, Ken



BILL KOSTROUN/AP

Raul Ibanez hits a three-run homer in the 10th inning Thursday night to give Philadelphia a 6-3 victory over the New York Mets.

Takahashi came in and struck out Ryan Howard as the home crowd roared. Ibanez followed with a drive over the wall in right-center for his 21st homer.

"I was aware of his hitting abil-

ities," Takahashi said through an interpreter. "He's a great hitter and I gave it my best but that was the result."

Scott Eyre (1-1) recorded the last out of the ninth to earn the

victory, throwing just two pitches. Ryan Madson worked the 10th for his fourth save in five opportunities and second in two days.

Parnell also got the loss Wednesday night, giving up Utley's winning homer in the 11th inning of Philadelphia's 5-4 victory.

"They've got a little power and the longer you play with that fire the more risk there is," Mets manager Jerry Manuel said.

Jaime Moyer pitched six innings and Pedro Feliz had three hits for Philadelphia, which took two of three from second-place New York to increase its division lead to four games. Jimmy Rollins, Utley and Matt Stairs each drove in runs.

"It's nice to be able to go on the road and feel comfortable in the environment that we're in and play well," Moyer said.

The Phillies host the Boston Red Sox on Friday night in the opener of a nine-game homestand, all against AL East teams.

Carlos Beltran drove in Luis Castillo three times and Tim Lincecum pitched a season-high seven innings for New York, which dropped to 18-11 at its new stadium and will make the short drive to the Bronx to open the Subway Series on Friday night against the New York Yankees.

"They proved today that it's not going to be easy playing in this division," Beltran said.

Redding was in line for his first victory with New York before the Phillies rallied in the seventh. Feliz singled with one out and Chris Coste followed with a double to left to put runners on second and third. Stairs, hitting for Moyer, then grounded out to second, tying it 3-3. Rollins flied out to center to end the inning.

Castillo doubled in the first, singled in the third and doubled in the fifth. Alex Cora moved him up each time, twice with sacrifices, and Beltran took care of the rest. He had a run-scoring groundout, an RBI double and a sacrifice fly.

The Mets' offensive execution was impressive early but it didn't last. They went 1-for-8 with runners in scoring position for the game and left five on base one night after stranding a season-high 16 runners, including eight from innings seven through 10.

"We weren't able to add runs," Jerry Manuel said. "Even though we were getting hits, we weren't scoring."

Rollins, who returned to his customary leadoff spot Wednesday night after two games batting sixth, drove in Philly's first run with a sacrifice fly in the third. He also singled and scored on Utley's one-out double into the right-field corner in the sixth, cutting New York's lead to 3-2.

NL roundup

Thanks to the Reds, Nationals get rare victory

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Washington Nationals found a way to get a rare victory: have the Cincinnati Reds just throw one away.

Cristian Guzman scored the go-ahead run on a throwing error by Cincinnati second baseman Brandon Phillips in the eighth inning, a mistake that could have been forced by Alberto Gonzalez's hard slide.

"You play hard — good things happen," manager Manny Acta said.

The victory was just the third in 16 games for the Nationals.

With the bases loaded and one

out, Ryan Zimmerman bounced a slow grounder to shortstop Alex Gonzalez, who flipped to Phillips. As Anderson Hernandez crossed the plate with the tying run, Phillips threw wildly to first, allowing Guzman to score.

"Game on the line, you are going to try and make a play. That's what I tried to do," Phillips said. "He (Gonzalez) hit me and I tried to make a play."

The Reds won the first two games of the series, waiting out two excruciating rain delays and watching pitchers wriggle out of jam after jam.

Manager Dusty Baker felt Phil-

lips shouldn't have tried to throw the ball because he thought Zimmerman would beat the relay.

"It's a situation where you are trying. Probably shouldn't have, but Brandon is the best around," Baker said. "They kept the pressure on us. Even though we had the lead, the pressure was more on us than it was on them."

Julian Tavarez (2-4) pitched two scoreless innings in relief of John Lannan and Joe Biemel got his first save of the year, pitching a scoreless ninth. It was Washington's first save since May 24.

Rockies 5, Brewers 4: At Milwaukee, Aaron Cook pitched

shutout ball into the seventh inning as Rockies won their eighth straight game.

Ian Stewart homered and scored three times as Colorado won three in a row at Milwaukee after completing a four-game sweep at St. Louis.

Ryan Braun hit a three-run homer in the ninth for NL Central-leading Milwaukee.

Colorado has won eight straight on the road and is 10-4 under manager Jim Tracy, who took over for the fired Clint Hurdle on May 29.

Astros 2, Cubs 1: At Houston, Geoff Blum drove in the winning

run for the second straight game, hitting an RBI single in the 13th inning for the Astros. On Wednesday, Blum singled with the bases loaded in the ninth in Houston's 2-1 victory over the Cubs.

Derrek Lee homered for the Cubs with one out in the ninth.

Diamondbacks 2, Giants 1: At Phoenix, Max Scherzer (3-4) allowed three hits over 7²/₃ dominant innings and Justin Upton homered and hit an RBI single.

San Francisco closed in the ninth on a run-scoring wild pitch by Chad Qualls, who got his 13th save when he struck out Edgar Renteria with a runner at third.

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THE NEW SANNO

Howard's big night ends on low note

By ANTONIO GONZALEZ
The Associated Press

ORLANDO, Florida — The Superman capes were left crinkled up under the seats after a record-setting performance by Dwight Howard on Thursday couldn't prevent the Orlando Magic slipping to a 3-1 deficit in the NBA Finals series.

The man dubbed Superman set a finals record with nine blocked shots to go with 16 points and 21 rebounds. However the All-Star center missed eight free throws — including two that could have sealed a victory in regulation — and the Magic lost 99-91 in overtime to the Los Angeles Lakers.

Orlando was ahead 87-84 with 11.1 seconds remaining in the fourth quarter when Howard was fouled, but he missed both free throws.

"I just missed them," said Howard. "I've been working on my free throws. They just weren't falling tonight. There's no need to get down on myself. I did a lot of good things tonight, just my free throws weren't there."

Howard, who had been shooting 65 percent from the line in the playoffs, finished 6-for-14

from the stripe. The Magic were 22-for-37.

"How would you feel? Pretty bad, right? He's obviously upset," Magic guard J.J. Redick said. "It's a disappointing way to lose — 11 seconds, up three with two free throws. You at least feel you're going to get another trip to the free throw line because they have to foul. End up losing in overtime."

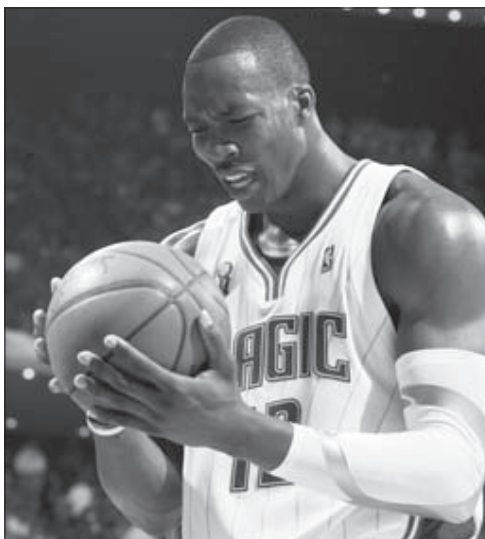
It brought back memories of the Magic's only other finals appearance, when Nick Anderson missed four consecutive free throws at the end of Game 1 of the 1995 finals. Orlando never recovered and was swept 4-0 by the Houston Rockets.

These finals looked just the same.

Los Angeles' Derek Fisher hit a three-pointer to send the game into overtime, and another big one in OT, and the Magic now must win three straight if they are to take the 2009 title.

"We can't hang our heads," Howard said. "We still believe. There's no reason to have any doubts right now."

Howard looked like he was going to bring the Magic to a 2-2



The Orlando Magic's Dwight Howard reacts after missing a shot in the second quarter of Game 4 of the NBA Finals against the Los Angeles Lakers Thursday in Orlando, Fla. Howard had a finals record nine blocks.

ORLANDO SENTINEL, GARY W. GREEN/AP

series tie, but Orlando blew a 12-point halftime lead and collapsed in the final minute of regulation. Howard had seven turnovers in the game and missed another free throw in overtime.

"It's tough for him," Magic point guard Rafer Alston said. "He played a great game. I'm not going to base his performance or anything like that on one free throw."

It was another excruciating loss for the Magic. Another game they had plenty of opportunities to win. It's been that way all series and throughout the franchise's history.

Magic guard Courtney Lee missed an alley-oop attempt at

the buzzer in Game 2, a potential-game winner that was magnified after Orlando lost in overtime.

This franchise has seen plenty of heartbreak over the years: Shaquille O'Neal bolting for Los Angeles after the 1995-96 season, Grant Hill's constant injuries, and so many potent Magic teams led by Tracy McGrady that never made it past the first round.

While the Magic have climbed back from nearly every obstacle this season — injuries, playoff deficits and buzzer-beaters — this one might be too difficult to overcome. Only eight NBA teams have come back from a 3-1 deficit in a best-of-seven series.

NBA scoreboard

NBA Finals

(Best-of-7)

Orlando vs. L.A. Lakers

L.A. Lakers 100, Orlando 75
L.A. Lakers 101, Orlando 96, OT
Orlando 108, L.A. Lakers 104
Thursday: L.A. Lakers 99, Orlando 91, OT, L.A. Lakers lead series 3-1
Sunday: L.A. Lakers at Orlando
Tuesday: Orlando at L.A. Lakers*
Thursday, June 18: Orlando at L.A. Lakers*

*—If necessary

Thursday

Lakers 99, Magic 91

L.A. LAKERS — Ariza 6-14 1-2 16, Gasol 7-14 2-4 16, Bynum 2-3 2-2 6, Fisher 5-11 0-0 12, Bryant 11-31 8-8 32, Odom 4-10 0-0 9, Mbenga 0-0 0-0 0, Farmer 0-2 0-0 0, Walton 2-2 2-4 6, Powell 1-2 0-0 2, Vujacic 0-2 0-0 0, Brown 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 38-91 15-20 99.

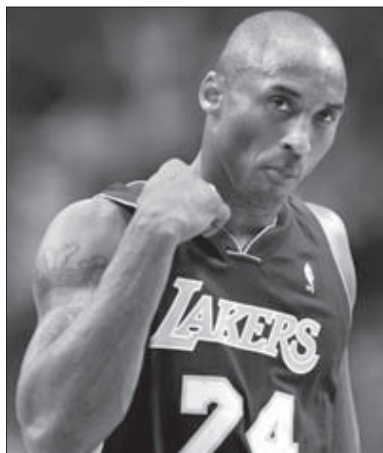
ORLANDO — Turkoglu 8-13 8-13 25, Lewis 2-10 0-0 6, Howard 5-12 6-14 16, Alston 5-13 0-0 11, Lee 1-4 1-2 4, Pietrus 4-8 6-7 15, Battie 1-3 0-0 2, Redick 2-6 1-1 6, Nelson 1-3 0-0 2, Gortat 2-2 0-0 4. Totals 31-74 22-37 91.

L.A. Lakers 20 17 30 12-99
Orlando 24 25 14 24 4-91

Three-Point Goals—L.A. Lakers 8-23 (Ariza 3-4, Bryant 2-6, Fisher 2-7, Odom 1-2, Vujacic 0-2, Farmer 0-2), Orlando 7-21 (Lewis 2-6, Pietrus 1-2, Redick 1-2, Turkoglu 1-3, Alston 1-4, Lee 1-4). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—L.A. Lakers 51 (Gasol 10), Orlando 65 (Howard 21). Assists—L.A. Lakers 15 (Bryant 8), Orlando 17 (Lewis 4). Total Fouls—L.A. Lakers 28, Orlando 21. Technicals—Ariza, Gasol, L.A. Lakers Coach Jackson, Pietrus, Orlando defensive three second. Flagrant Fouls—Pietrus, A—17,461 (17,461).

Most blocks in a Finals game

9 — Dwight Howard, Orlando vs. L.A. Lakers, June 11, 2009
8 — Tim Duncan, San Antonio vs. New Jersey, June 15, 2003
8 — Shaquille O'Neal, L.A. Lakers vs. Philadelphia, June 8, 2001
8 — Patrick Ewing, New York vs. Houston, June 17, 1994
8 — Hakeem Olajuwon, Houston vs. Boston, June 5, 1986
8 — Bill Walton, Portland vs. Philadelphia, June 5, 1977



JOHN RAOUX/AP

The Los Angeles Lakers' Kobe Bryant had 32 points, eight assists and seven rebounds in the Lakers' 99-91 victory over the Orlando Magic on Thursday night.

Three: Fisher fulfills obligation for L.A.

THREE, FROM BACK PAGE

"He's been there before," said Kobe Bryant, who had 32 points, eight assists and seven rebounds. "He has been there and done that. That's Derek. He just has supreme confidence and I think those shots at the end of the game are actually easier for him than the other ones."

At the end of regulation, Orlando had one final try. The Magic inbounded the ball to Mickael Pietrus, but his long and contested jumper was off.

Bryant scored two quick baskets in the overtime, and Howard tied it when he split two free throws with 1:27 remaining.

On L.A.'s next trip, Trevor Ariza grabbed his own miss to get another 24 seconds and Fisher lined up and drilled a three-pointer from the top of the key to make it 94-91.

As he retreated downcourt and Orlando

called a timeout, the Lakers bench stormed onto the court and surrounded the popular Fisher, who felt obliged to come through.

"I have a responsibility to my team that if I'm going to be on the floor, then I have to make a difference," he said. "None of us can continue to expect that Kobe is going to save us."

In NBA Finals history, only two players have made more threes than Fisher's 40: Robert Horry (56) and Michael Jordan (42).

"It's character," said Lakers coach Phil Jackson, a victory away from a record 10th NBA championship ring. "We've always said the character has got to be in players if they are going to be great players. You just can't draft it."

Ariza and Pau Gasol each had 16 for Los Angeles. Ariza, traded by Orlando to L.A.

in 2007, had 13 of the Lakers' 30 points in the third quarter.

With his team up by three as the end of regulation neared, Orlando coach Stan Van Gundy felt it was too early to foul the Lakers. With his team missing free throws, he didn't want to get into a foul-shooting contest.

Later, he regretted the decision.

"That one will haunt me forever," he said.

The Lakers spent the first half in foul trouble, and left the floor at halftime down 49-37.

They came back a different team.

"On a championship run, you're going to have moments where you make big plays," Bryant said. "And tonight was one of them."

STARS AND STRIPES
salutes

Flag Day
June 14, 2009



SPORTS



Falcons officially sever ties with suspended QB Vick, Page 41

NBA FINALS: Game 4

Three down, one to go

Fisher saves Lakers twice to overcome Magic in OT

BY TOM WITHERS
The Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — To this day, it is referred to simply as 0.4, the last-second shot that first made Derek Fisher famous.

In Game 4 of the NBA Finals, Fisher might have topped it.

Twice.

Fisher hit two key three-pointers — one with 4.6 seconds left in regulation, the other with 31.3 seconds to go in overtime — as the Los Angeles Lakers moved within one victory of their 15th championship by beating the Orlando Magic 99-91 on Thursday night to open a 3-1 series lead.

Fisher, 34, in his second stint with the Lakers after stops in Golden State and Utah, was best known for his turnaround fling with 0.4 seconds left in the 2004 playoffs against San Antonio. He has two more shots that rank with it.

"Maybe 100, 101, something like that," the 13-year veteran joked. "No, I mean, obviously, it's at the top. You know, even greater than 0.4 because I feel like we're as close as possible to what our end goal is."

The Lakers can wrap up their first title since 2002 on Sunday in Game 5. If necessary, Games 6 and 7 would be played back in Los Angeles.

The only way the Lakers, who overcame a 12-point halftime deficit in Game 4 and improved to 7-0 after a playoff loss, can be denied a crown is if they lose three in a row.

That hasn't happened all season.

The Magic, commandos of the comeback in the playoffs, need a rally for the ages. No team has come back from a 3-1 deficit to win the finals.

"There's no reason for us to hold our heads down," Orlando center Dwight Howard said. "We will believe until there's no more games to be played."

Howard was magnificent everywhere but at the free-throw line. He scored 16 points with 21 rebounds and a finals-record nine blocks. But he made just 6-of-14 foul shots, and it was his two crucial misses with 11.1 seconds to go in regulation that doomed the Magic.



JOHN BAZEMORE/AP

Los Angeles' Derek Fisher takes a three-point shot over Orlando's Jameer Nelson during the fourth quarter of Game 4 of the NBA Finals on Thursday. Fisher's shot tied the game and sent it into overtime. The Lakers won 99-91 for a 3-1 series lead.

Orlando missed 15 free throws.

"I just missed them," Howard said. "I've been working on my free throws. They just weren't falling tonight."

After Howard's late misses, Fisher pulled up and without hesitating dropped a three-pointer over Orlando's Jameer Nelson with 4.6 seconds left to tie it at 87 — and silence the home crowd.

"I just sensed that was the dagger," Fisher said. "That was the one that would put us in a position to close out the game — even though the game wasn't over."

Before the first of his two big threes, Fisher had missed his first five.

SEE THREE ON PAGE 47



DAVID J. PHILLIP/AP

Derek Fisher, who made a three-pointer with 4.6 seconds left in regulation and one with 31.3 seconds to go in overtime, celebrates the Lakers' 99-91 victory Thursday.